

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Group on Tropical Products

PROPOSALS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS

1. The general objectives of the trade negotiations in respect of agricultural products are the creation of acceptable conditions of access to world markets for agricultural products in furtherance of a significant development and expansion of world trade in such products.
2. With a view to achieving these objectives, particularly for tropical products, the Group on Tropical Products shall pursue further the question of trade in tropical products with a view to working out arrangements and procedures for their treatment in the trade negotiations.
3. As requested at the meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee on 18 March 1965, an indicative list of tropical products or groups of products which are important in the export trade of less-developed countries has been established by the secretariat and circulated to participating countries.¹
4. Taking this list into account participating countries should decide:
 - (i) for which products it may take measures to abolish or reduce barriers to trade
 - (ii) from which date and over which period of time this could be done
 - (iii) the degree of reduction envisaged
 - (iv) on the possibility of a binding of free entry or of a notification of existing bindings of free entry
 - (v) other relevant measures they might be able to take in conjunction with, or independently of, (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above.

¹This list will not, in this or any other negotiation have a binding effect as regards the definition of tropical products. Any country can thus choose also among products or groups of products not included in the list.

5. The offers referred to in paragraph 4 above will be tabled by 16 September.
6. Negotiations based on the offers referred to in paragraph 4 above should start by a multilateral confrontation in the Group on Tropical Products in the course of which participating governments should be prepared to furnish explanations on the contents and the scope of their offers, in relation to the objectives stated in paragraph 1, to the interested participating governments which so request.
7. Thereafter, the negotiations would proceed on the basis of the offers tabled in accordance with paragraph 5 above.