

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/W/10

14 February 1975

Special Distribution

Trade Negotiations Committee

11-13 February 1975

CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSALS

As requested in the meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, the specific proposals made by the Chairman in his summing-up on 13 February 1975 are set forth below.

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1. A Group "Tropical Products" should be established to organize and conduct the negotiations in this sector.
 2. A Group "Tariffs" should be established to draw up a tariff negotiating plan of as general application as possible, taking duly into account the views of the developing countries, particularly with regard to the Generalized System of Preferences.
 3. A Group "Non-tariff Measures" should initiate negotiations on these measures on as wide a basis as possible, either in the Group itself or in Sub-Groups.
 4. A Group "Agriculture" should be created. This Group, in the same way as the Group on Non-tariff Measures will decide itself how to organize its work either by taking up all these questions itself or by the way of sub-groups which it will be able to create at what it considers an appropriate time. The Agriculture Group will of course be competent for the whole range of agricultural products and for all the elements relevant to trade in these products. To arrive at our common objective, the harmonious and balanced development of all the elements subject to negotiation, it is necessary to underline that if in other groups questions which are likely to concern agriculture are taken up, the Agriculture Group shall concern itself with the matter as regards the agricultural aspects.
 5. A Group should be established to carry out an examination of the adequacy of the multilateral safeguard system considering particularly the modalities of application of Article XIX, with a view to furthering trade liberalization and preserving its results.
 6. A Group should be established to carry out an examination of the possibilities for the co-ordinated reduction or elimination of all barriers to trade in selected sectors, as a complementary technique.

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7. In carrying out its task, each Group will take due account, in the area of the negotiations with which it is concerned, of the suggestions and proposals that have been put forward for securing the practical application of the Tokyo Declaration as it relates to developing countries.

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8. The Trade Negotiations Committee decided to convene the initial meetings of the Groups as follows:

(a) Group "Non-tariff Measures"	week of 3 March
(b) Group "Tropical Products"	week of 10 March
(c) Group "Tariffs"	week of 17 March
(d) Group "Agriculture"	week of 24 March
(e) Group "Sector Approach"	week of 7 April ¹
(f) Group "Safeguards"	week of 7 April ¹

¹Providing meeting rooms can be found.