GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
MIN/NIM/5
6 June 1975
Special Distribution

multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"
Sub-Group "Subsidies and Countervailing Duties"

ACTING CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP AND RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING

meeting of 3-5 June 1975

- 1. The Sub-Group invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this meeting of the Sub-Group as an observer.
- 2. The Sub-Group held an extensive exchange of views, inter alia, on issues listed in paragraphs 9 and 14 of document wTN/NTm/W/8 in the areas of subsidies and countervailing duties.
- One of the issues on which the Sub-Group exchanged views was differentiated treatment for developing countries in the areas of subsidies and countervailing duties. Delegations from developing countries and some delegations from developed countries felt that such treatment was both feasible and appropriate. A number of points regarding the need for such treatment and the form it might take were made. The Sub-Group recalled that it had been felt by Group 3(b) that the discussion on general rules and differentiated treatment should proceed in parallel. Some delegations suggested that the provisions in Part IV relating to the question of special treatment for developing countries in the application of countervailing duties should embody more binding commitments on the part of developed countries and in this connexion it was proposed that the secretariat should prepare a note setting out the legislative history of relevant provisions of Part IV. It was also proposed that the note should summarize the experience so far with the operation of the provisions of Article XXXVII:3(c) in relation to countervailing duties so that the adequacy of existing provisions and the possibilities of improving them could be assessed. It was agreed that the secretariat should prepare such a paper, delegations being invited for this purpose to communicate to the secretariat, relevant information relating to the use of countervailing measures with which they were directly concerned.
- 4. There was widespread consensus in the Sub-Group that it was desirable to move from the stage of general discussion of the issues in the areas of both subsidies and countervailing duties to the stage of negotiations on the basis of specific proposals to be made by governments. To that end the Sub-Group agreed that participants should submit in writing by a target date of 15 October 1975 to the secretariat, for distribution to members of the Sub-Group, their comments on problems encountered in

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the areas of subsidies and countervailing duties as well as any specific proposals for appropriate solutions to these problems including, where feasible, draft texts or suggestions.

5. The Sub-Group agreed it would meet for a sufficient period of time in November to discuss the specific comments and proposals submitted.