

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"  
Sub-Group "Customs Matters"

### MEETING OF 8-9 FEBRUARY 1978

#### Summing-Up by the Chairman

1. The Sub-Group met on 8-9 February 1978. It invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this meeting of the Sub-Group as an observer. It also invited a representative of the Customs Co-operation Council to attend this meeting of the Sub-Group in an expert capacity.
2. The Sub-Group noted the communications received from Chairmen of other Groups or Sub-Groups (MTN/NTM/W/136). At the end of the discussion the Chairman on his own responsibility gave the following summing-up.
  - A. Customs valuation
    3. The Sub-Group had a further exchange of views on the draft valuation code submitted by the European Communities and circulated in MTN/NTM/W/122. A number of comments of a general nature were made by several delegations and the representative of the European Communities gave further clarifications, elaborated on the EC proposal and responded to specific questions and comments made. In the course of the discussion, several delegations indicated specific points which they felt would need to be taken into account in a possible revision of the present draft. Most members of the Sub-Group agreed that the draft valuation code constituted a basis for its future work and that bilateral and plurilateral consultations involving as many members of the Sub-Group as possible should begin shortly with the aim of producing a revised draft. Such a draft will be circulated to the Sub-Group for its further consideration.
  - B. Import documentation, consular formalities and customs procedures
    4. The Sub-Group noted that many problems in the field of import documentation, consular formalities and customs procedures were covered by the request and offer procedure agreed upon in the framework of Group "Non-Tariff Measures" and that delegations would need some additional time to examine in detail offers which had already been or would shortly be made. The Sub-Group invited those countries who

had not yet submitted their requests in this area to do so as quickly as possible. The Sub-Group agreed to assess at a subsequent meeting the situation and to consider what further steps may be necessary.

5. The Sub-Group noted the information supplied by the Customs Co-operation Council on the latest developments in the CCC's work in the field of import documentation, customs formalities and customs procedures.

Date of the next meeting

6. The Sub-Group agreed that the date for the next meeting would be determined by the Chairman in consultation with delegations.