

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Group "Agriculture"  
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## DOCUMENTATION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GRAINS

### Addendum

#### SWEDEN

The following additional information on international trade in grains has been submitted by the Swedish delegation. This information supplements information already included in Chapter C of MTN/GR/W/8/Rev.1.

Page 130. Under Sweden: Add the following:

#### Central boards and agencies

The National Agricultural Market Board is responsible for the administration of the government's price regulating activities and measures relating to foreign trade in agricultural products. The application in practice in the grain sector is largely carried out by the semi-official Swedish Grain Trade Association.

#### Prices

Redemption prices are those at which the Grain Trade Association on 1 April the year after harvest purchases all grain (wheat, rye, barley, oats) offered to it. The association may purchase before that date but in that case prices will be lower due to costs of storage and interest. Although the price formation is free, redemption prices in practice set price levels for the whole season. Preliminary redemption prices are fixed by Parliament every year after negotiations between the government and the producers' organizations. Definite redemption prices are then determined by the Grain Trade Association at the beginning of the harvest taking into account the size of the crop, expected market conditions at home and abroad and the availability of funds for financing the activities of the Association. If definite prices for bread grains differ from the preliminary ones milling fees are adjusted in the

opposite direction in order to keep consumer prices unaffected. Another type of arrangement exists for coarse grains in order to leave costs for animal production unaffected by differences between preliminary and definite redemption prices.

Export/import régimes

If world market prices are lower than domestic prices export aid is granted by means of an equalization system administered by the Grain Trade Association. The aid is financed through a fund mainly based on the milling fees mentioned above.

Due to unusual market conditions there is at present a temporary export license requirement for wheat, barley and oats.

The domestic market is protected by means of variable import levies fixed by the National Agricultural Market Board. They are determined on the basis of price developments on the domestic market and the world market. Normally the levies on bread grains are revised once a month, but more frequent adjustments may take place if price developments on the world market so require.

Page 140. SWEDEN

The information in column (2) should read: "Grain Trade Association".

The information in column (6) should read: Licences applied temporarily during recent years.