

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/ME/2

3 November 1975

Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Agriculture"

Sub-Group on Meat

MEETING OF OCTOBER 1975

Summing-up by the Chairman

1. The Sub-Group on Meat held its second session on 6-10 October. It was agreed that the Sub-Group should be chaired by the secretariat. The Sub-Group invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this session of the Sub-Group as an observer.
2. In accordance with the first stage of the programme of future work adopted by it at its June meeting (paragraph 4 of MTN/ME/1) the Sub-Group, for the purposes of the negotiations, proceeded to an analysis of the specific characteristics of the structure and the problems of the world meat trade, including the direct or indirect impact of trade barriers and trade distorting practices. In this regard the Sub-Group had before it a paper submitted by the Australian delegation on the world trade in beef (document MTN/ME/W/9) and a note by the secretariat summarizing import and export measures affecting trade in bovine meat including live animals (document MTN/ME/W/8 and Corr.1).
3. The Sub-Group heard a number of statements regarding the specific characteristics, structure and problems of world trade in meat. The texts of certain statements were circulated.¹
4. On the basis of document MTN/ME/W/8 and the information furnished by delegations in the course of discussion, the Sub-Group carried out a multilateral examination and analysis of all the measures maintained in this sector by the European Communities, New Zealand, Japan, Australia, Canada, Argentina, United States, Brazil and Switzerland.

¹ MTN/ME/W/10 European Communities
MTN/ME/W/11 Uruguay
MTN/ME/W/12 Canada
MTN/ME/W/14 United States

5. The Sub-Group agreed that, at its next meeting, it would continue with and complete this examination and analysis and would then proceed to deal with all the elements of all proposals, in accordance with paragraph 6 of MTN/ME/1.

6. Delegations are invited to submit, before the next meeting, written contributions on matters considered relevant in dealing with the work in paragraph 6 of MTN/ME/1 including, inter alia, statements relating to their position in the world meat trade as outlined in the note circulated by the Australian delegation in document MTN/ME/W/13.

7. It was agreed that secretariat document MTN/ME/W/8 be revised to take account of points emerging from the analysis and of the information and comments which delegations are invited to submit in order to complete the summary.

Date of next meeting

8. The Sub-Group will hold its next meeting on 2-4 and 9-13 February 1976.