

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/W/36
28 February 1962

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
22 February - 2 March 1962

CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY COUNCIL

Draft

The following draft of conclusions reached by the Council on items of its agenda are submitted for approval. (In the minutes of the Council's meeting, each of the following paragraphs will be preceded by a short statement of the problem under consideration and a note on the trend of the discussion.)

Item 3. Programme for Expansion of Trade

(a) Customs tariffs

(ii) Arrangements for Working Party on Tariff Reduction

The Council agreed that the meeting of the Working Party on Tariff Reduction, which was to have been held in April, should be postponed and that the Council at its meeting in May should decide on a date.

The Council noted the statement by the representative of the European Economic Community (L/1733) containing a declaration on the question of tariff negotiations, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Community during their meeting held on 6 February.

(b) Trade in agricultural products

(i) First report by Group on Cereals

The Council took note of the summary of the discussions at the first meeting of the Group on Cereals, as contained in document L/1728, and noted that the Group had arranged to meet again on 26 March if the Chairman, after consultation with delegations, considered that there existed at that time a reasonable basis for continuing the discussion.

(ii) Arrangements for future work on other commodities

/Still under discussion by the Council./

(c) Trade of less-developed countries

The Council took note of the report by Committee III contained in document L/1732. It appointed a special group on trade in tropical products with the terms of reference and membership proposed by the Committee in paragraph 22 of its report. The Council agreed in principle that a meeting of the Special Group should be convened prior to the next meeting of Committee III, which is to begin on 30 April, but on the understanding that the Executive Secretary, in consultation with members of the Group, would, if found appropriate, alter the date of the meeting. The Council endorsed the proposal of Committee III that the States associated with the European Economic Community should be invited to participate in the work of the Group, and instructed the Executive Secretary to consult with these States concerning their representation.

Item 4. Butter marketing problems

The Council took note of the report by the Working Party contained in document L/1720.

Item 5. Residual import restrictions

The Council took note of the interim report by the Expert Group, contained in document L/1716, and stressed the importance of the requests by the Panel for additional information and clarification so that the fullest possible information would be available to the Panel to enable it to proceed with its examination of the overall and individual adequacy of the notifications. The Council noted that the Panel will meet again and will submit a final report for consideration by the Council at its meeting in May.

Item 6. Relations with Poland

The Council approved the proposals put forward by the Executive Secretary in C/W/34 and appointed a working party "to conduct the first annual review under paragraphs A:4 and B:3 of the Declaration of 9 November 1959 on relations between contracting parties and Poland and to submit a report to the Council at its meeting in May 1962". The Working Party will be composed of:

Australia	Czechoslovakia	Italy
Austria	Denmark	Sweden
Belgium	France	United Kingdom
Canada	India	United States
	Indonesia	

It was agreed that the Council would appoint the chairman of the Working Party at its meeting in May and that the Working Party would meet during the Council session.

Item 7. Central American Free Trade Area

The Council agreed that the item be retained on the agenda for its meeting in May. The Executive Secretary was requested to inform the Government of Nicaragua of the views of Council members on this matter, to urge the Government of Nicaragua to be represented at that meeting, and to prepare an analysis of the economic and legal questions arising in connexion with the Treaty between Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama.

Item 8. Recourse to Article XXIII by Uruguay

/Item still under discussion./

Item 9. United States equalization fee on cotton textiles

The Council noted the views expressed and the statement by the representative of the United States that he would communicate these views to his Government.

Item 10. South Africa - Waiver from Article I

The Council took note of the report by the Government of South Africa contained in document L/1718.

Item 11. Consular formalities

The Council agreed that the Panel, as proposed by the Executive Secretary, should meet from 12 to 16 March, as previously arranged, and urged those contracting parties which still maintain consular formalities to endeavour to nominate experts to the Panel or at least to be represented in order to discuss with the Panel the difficulties encountered by their governments in complying with the Recommendations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Item 12. Benelux Schedule (Surinam)

The Council found that there were "special circumstances" in the sense of paragraph 4 of Article XXVIII, and agreed to grant the authority requested by the Netherlands Government.

Item 13. Administrative and financial questions

/Item still under discussion./

Item 14. Further work of the Council

/Item still under discussion./

Item 15. Israeli foreign trade policy

The Council noted the statement by the representative of Israel.

Item 16. Article XVIII:12(b): Consultations with Ceylon

The Council agreed that, in view of the consultation under paragraph 12(a) which was held in 1961, the next consultation under paragraph 12(b) should be postponed until 1963.

Item 17. Intensification of import restrictions by Ghana

The Council initiated a consultation under Article XVIII:12(a) on the intensification of import restrictions by Ghana and agreed that it be continued by the Balance-of-Payments Committee at the meeting scheduled for 7-18 May.

Item 18. United Kingdom waivers

Acting on the authority delegated by the CONTRACTING PARTIES the Council appointed a technical panel with the following terms of reference and composition:

"to consider the situation arising from the consultations requested on 7 July 1961 by the Government of Brazil in connexion with the application by the United Kingdom dated 1 June 1961 (GATT/AIR/238 - Secret) under the Decisions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 24 October 1953, as amended, and of 5 March 1955; and to report to the Council".

Chairman: Mr. J. Lacarte (Uruguay)

Members: Mr. M.H. van Wijk (Netherlands)
Mr. J.W. Evans (United States)

It was agreed that, if requested by the United Kingdom delegation, the Council would hold a special meeting to consider the report of the Panel.

Item - . EEC common agricultural policy

The Council noted the statement by the representative of the European Economic Community concerning developments in the formulation of the common agricultural policy of the Community and welcomed the intention of the Community, shortly to communicate to the CONTRACTING PARTIES the text of the Decisions taken.