



G R E E C E

Statement on participation

Second statement on participation

Third statement on participation (agriculture)

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TN.64/18

23 April 1964

Special Distribution

Trade Negotiations Committee

Original: French

THE PROBLEM FOR COUNTRIES WITH A SPECIAL
ECONOMIC OR TRADE STRUCTURE

Communication from Greece

The secretariat has received the following communication from the permanent representative of Greece:

"With reference to the matters now under consideration in the Trade Negotiations Committee and the Sub-Committee on the Participation of the Less-Developed Countries, in whose work my delegation will participate, I have the honour to advise you that Greece intends to take part in the Kennedy Round negotiations. I wish to point out, however, that because of my country's special situation, having regard to its association with the Common Market and its economic structure as well as its stage of industrialization, the responsible services in Athens have had to embark on a thorough study of complex questions relating to my country's participation in the Kennedy Round.

"I must, therefore, inform you that Greece reserves the right to present, at a later date, proposals concerning the conditions in which it would consider its participation in the Kennedy Round to be equitable."

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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12 February 1965

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Original: French

THE PROBLEM FOR COUNTRIES WITH A SPECIAL ECONOMIC OR TRADE STRUCTURE

Communication from Greece

The secretariat has received the following communication from the permanent representative of Greece.

Further to letter No. 718/C-ED¹ which my predecessor addressed to you on 16 April 1964 concerning Greece's participation in the Kennedy Round, I have the honour to inform you that my country's position in this regard is the following:

By virtue of its association with the European Economic Community, Greece will, under the Athens Agreement, have to align its national tariff with the common customs tariff of the Community, according to the modalities and schedule set forth in that Agreement.

The reductions made by the Community in its tariff as a result of the Kennedy negotiations, under the rule for across-the-board reduction or the disparity rules, will have repercussions on the Greek economy not only in the future - that is to say once the alignment of the Greek tariff with the common customs tariff is completed - but also as from the implementation of the decisions arrived at in the Kennedy negotiations, because of the fact that Greece will have to make larger duty reductions at each stage of alignment towards the common customs tariff of the Community, since the Greek tariff is in general higher than the latter.

This alignment of the Greek tariff with the lower Community tariff therefore constitutes the positive offer of Greece in the Kennedy Round.

By virtue of its participation in the Kennedy negotiations in the above-mentioned sense, my country expects to benefit from the reciprocal advantages resulting from the negotiations as well as from any special advantages which may be granted to developing countries or countries with a special economic or trade structure, in view of the fact that Greece is a developing country and largely depends on exports of a small number of agricultural products.

¹ See document TN.64/18.

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TN.64/76

5 August 1966

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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Trade Negotiations Committee

Original: French

THE PROBLEM FOR COUNTRIES WITH A SPECIAL ECONOMIC OR TRADE STRUCTURE

Communication from Greece

The secretariat has received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of Greece.

In view of the imminence of the resumption of the Kennedy negotiations and their extension to agricultural products, I have the honour to state hereunder my country's position in this regard:

By virtue of its Association Agreement with the European Economic Community, Greece is in a special situation with respect to the Kennedy negotiations.

Thus, on the basis of the proposals which I made on behalf of my Government in my letter of 4 February 1965 (reference No. 157/C.ED) and which were reproduced in document TN.64/37 of 12 February 1965, the Trade Negotiations Committee at its meeting on 18 March 1965 recognized the right of Greece to full and complete participation in the Kennedy negotiations (document TN.64/SR.10 of 14 April 1965).

The reasons that justified that decision remain valid today with respect to Greece's offers in the agricultural sector, for its association with the EEC is leading the Contracting Parties towards a complete customs union which will be attained through the harmonization of the agricultural policy of Greece with the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC.

Such harmonization of the agricultural policies of Greece and the EEC will involve alignment of the Greek agricultural sector with that of the EEC, by means of the adoption by Greece of the system of unity of prices, of the Common Agricultural Policy and consequently of the protective régime applied by the EEC with respect to third countries (support margins).

Thus, so far as the agricultural sector is concerned, the position of Greece in the context of the Kennedy negotiations is identical in all respects to that of the EEC, in regard both to products for which Common Agricultural Policy regulations have been established within the Community and to the other agricultural products.

Indeed, with respect to the former, Greece declared to the EEC in due time that it was prepared to harmonize its agricultural policy with the Common Agricultural Policy. The relevant procedure is under way.

As regard the other agricultural products, it must be considered certain that Greece will apply the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC, in view of the fact that, by virtue of the scope of the customs union as provided for in the Association Agreement, Greece will necessarily have to accede to the protective régime to be established within the EEC. So far as Greece is concerned the application of this régime will consist of a common organization of the market or of protective measures vis-à-vis third countries by the adoption of the duties set forth in the common external tariff, either independently or in conjunction with the determination of a reference price.

It is therefore evident that the offers of the EEC in the agricultural sector will constitute per se the offers of Greece for its participation in the Kennedy negotiations.