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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS FOR
THE ACCESSION OF SWITZERLAND

Tariff Negotiations Committee

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND MEETING

Held at the Bâtiment Electoral, Geneva on
Friday, 15 August 1958, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Finn Gundelach (Denmark)

Subjects discussed: 1. Conference Arrangements
 2. Supplementary Lists of Requests and Offers

1. Conference Arrangements

In the light of the situation set out in TNS/6 and Spec/218/58, the Committee discussed the arrangements which would have to be made in the final stages of the Conference.

The Chairman referred to the conclusions contained in the last paragraph of TNS/6:

"The attention of delegations is drawn to the fact that if completion of the negotiations were delayed unduly beyond the middle of September it would be very difficult to submit the results thereof in time for Switzerland to take part in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their Thirteenth Session."

and reaffirmed the desirability of keeping to the target of mid-September. Since two or three weeks would be necessary to complete the final stage of the conference leading up to the opening for signature of the instrument which would embody the results of these negotiations, the Committee urged delegations to endeavour to conclude bilateral negotiations about the middle of September. Some delegations expressed fears that they might not be able to conclude bilateral negotiations until the end of September.

In view of the lack of hotel accommodation in Geneva during the period 1 to 15 September, some delegations had agreed with the Swiss delegation to pursue their negotiations at Montreux during this period. It was pointed out that contracting parties which relied on their permanent representatives in Geneva for the conduct of their negotiations would not be able to pursue them outside Geneva.

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In place of the Bâtiment Electoral, no longer available in September, the Villa "Les Ormeaux" at Pregny would be booked for occupation as from 15 September so that any bilateral negotiations still outstanding could be completed and the final documents be drawn up and checked. Delegations were invited to indicate to the secretariat as soon as possible the number of offices, large or small, which they would require.

2. Supplementary Lists of Requests and Offers

The Chairman recalled the procedural obligation incumbent on all delegations to submit to the secretariat for distribution to all other participants supplementary lists of requests and offers to embody all changes, additions, deletions, etc. made to the original lists in the course of the negotiations. The changes should include any further conditions or notes attached to the concessions which might be of interest to other negotiating parties.