

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

DPC/F/31

11 January 1985

Special Distribution

International Dairy Arrangement

COMMITTEE OF THE PROTOCOL REGARDING MILK FAT

Report to the International Dairy Products Council

1. In pursuance of Article VII:2(a) of the Arrangement and Rule 22 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee has prepared the present report on its twentieth session.
2. The Committee held its twentieth session on 17 December 1984.
3. The Committee adopted the agenda proposed in airgram GATT/AIR/2085 and adopted the report on its nineteenth session.
4. The Committee reviewed the replies to the questionnaire and requested members which had not yet communicated information for the third quarter of 1984 to do so without delay. The Committee took note of the summary tables prepared by the secretariat.
5. Noting that the International Dairy Products Council was to hold a special meeting on 18 December 1984 in order to review the situation, the Committee held an exchange of information and views regarding the market situation for products covered by the Protocol. The Committee noted that aggregate production of butter in 1984 could show a slower increase than in 1983 and even a decline in relation to that year. After having slowed in 1983, the volume of international trade in butter seemed to have increased in 1984. The Committee noted that aggregate stocks of butter at the end of 1984 would be at a high level, probably above that recorded at the beginning of the year. With respect to prices, the EEC indicated that under Regulation (EEC) No. 2268/84 prices of butter were in a bracket between US\$1,220 and US\$1,250 per ton f.o.b., and prices of butter oil between US\$1,450 and US\$1,480 per ton f.o.b.
6. With respect to the question of observance of minimum prices in tenders requiring quotations other than in United States dollars, the Committee noted that no cases of that kind had been reported.
7. The next sessions of the Committees will be held consecutively from 25 to 27 March 1985, subject to confirmation by the secretariat.