

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

SR.22/1  
8 March 1965

Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Twenty-Second Session

## SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Tuesday, 2 March 1965 at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. G. BRESSON (Upper Volta)

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Subjects discussed:</u> 1. Adoption of agenda	2
2. Order of business	2

### Opening address by the Chairman<sup>1</sup>

The CHAIRMAN welcomed the representatives of the five governments which had acceded to the GATT under the provisions of Article XXVI:5(c) since the twenty-first session: Togo, Malawi, Malta, Gambia and Burundi. He said that the increased membership of the GATT reflected the growing interest which the GATT was awakening in many parts of the world. He felt that it was incumbent on the contracting parties to see to it that the hopes of the less-developed countries which were increasingly looking towards the GATT would find their just satisfaction within the framework of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. Efforts should be made to ensure that the new Part IV would soon be an integral part of the Agreement. Acceptance of a proposal before the session concerning the definitive application of the General Agreement and the ending of the system of provisional application which had been in effect since 1948 would have the effect of solidifying the General Agreement and merited careful and sympathetic consideration by delegations. He stressed the possibilities of the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations for improving the trade of all participating countries. Referring to the growing tendency towards the formation of regional groupings he said that out of a total of seventy-nine countries participating in the work of the General Agreement, forty were participating in such groupings. He felt that the discussions within the Kennedy Round and in other areas of GATT activities undoubtedly would lead to a settlement of outstanding points in relation both to the terms of the General Agreement and to the legitimate aspirations and responsibilities of these groups. (The full statement of the Chairman's opening address was distributed in press release GATT/919.)

<sup>1</sup>In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. J. Warren (Canada), and of the First Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. Lacarte (Uruguay), Mr. J. Bresson (Upper Volta) presided and read an opening address on behalf of Mr. Lacarte.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda proposed in document L/2358/Add.1 was adopted.

2. Order of business (W.22/1)

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the order of business proposed by the Executive Secretary in document W.22/1. He suggested that as the report by the Group of Experts on Trade Information and Trade Promotion Advisory Services was closely related to the work of the Committee on Trade and Development it might be useful to submit the report to that Committee for examination and comment before discussion in plenary. He added that certain recommendations of the Group had financial implications. This aspect should, therefore, be studied by the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration. He further suggested that the item on the Impact of Commodity Problems upon International Trade was also closely related to the work of the Committee on Trade and Development and could appropriately be referred to the Committee to examine the trends and developments in commodity trade and to include comments on this subject in the report it would submit to the CONTRACTING PARTIES later in the session.

Mr. SWARUP (India) said that as the agenda item dealing with residual import restrictions had great importance for less-developed countries the Committee on Trade and Development might first be asked to discuss it before it was debated in a plenary meeting.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, commenting on this suggestion by the Indian delegate, said that as the agenda item relating to residual import restrictions also covered restrictions affecting trade among industrialized countries, the discussion of the subject in the Committee should be confined to the effects of these restrictions on the trade of less-developed countries.

Mr. DONOVAN (Australia), referring to the Executive Secretary's remarks, suggested that the same consideration should apply to discussions in the Committee on the item concerning commodity problems.

Subject to the foregoing remarks the Chairman's proposals were approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.