

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED  
LIMITED C  
GATT/CPS/4  
31 March 1951  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Special Session, 1951

## Resolution Proposed by the United Kingdom

### THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

TAKING account of the progress made in the course of the tariff negotiations held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade at Geneva, Annecy and Torquay towards the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement

APPREHENDING that further effective progress may prove more difficult in the future in view of the reductions already secured in tariffs generally

RECOGNISING that this must be a matter of special concern to all contracting parties which have in substantial part already bound relatively low tariffs against increase

TAKING NOTE further that this is a matter of special concern also to all contracting parties which have subscribed to the Convention for European Economic Co-operation

CONSIDERING that other problems connected with the negotiation of new or compensatory concessions may have been brought to light in the course of the Torquay Conference

BELIEVING that the negotiating principles and procedures of the General Agreement require examination in the light of the experience gained in successive rounds of tariff negotiations and may be susceptible of development designed to promote further progress towards the achievement of the aims of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

RESOLVE that a Working Party be established to study these problems with terms of reference as follows:-

- (a) to review the efficacy of the negotiating procedures, as tested in the conferences held at Geneva, Annecy and Torquay, and to recommend such adjustments or adaptations as may appear desirable and practical to improve the opportunities of countries with relatively low tariffs to negotiate for the reduction of rates by countries with relatively high tariffs
- (b) to take into account in this connection such practical instances as may have become evident of negotiations between two member countries or groups of countries being retarded or frustrated by disparities of tariffs already embodied in the Schedules of tariff concessions
- (c) to study such other difficulties resulting from the application to tariff problems of existing procedures of the General Agreement as may suggest the need for adaptations thereof whether in respect of new concessions or compensatory concessions
- (d) to consider, taking due account of existing disparities in the economic and social structures of different countries, proposals by any contracting party for multilateral procedures designed

- (i) to contribute to a reduction of significant disparities in the tariffs of groups of countries; and
  - (ii) to provide a means of securing adequate compensation from such other member countries as would be likely under the terms of the Agreement to benefit materially therefrom
- (e) to seek such information from contracting parties or other Governments or from other Organisations or their Secretariats as may assist them in their studies
- (f) to assemble as soon as possible at Geneva and to report to the Contracting Parties not later than one month before their Sixth Session is due to begin

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES further RESOLVE to decide at their Sixth Session upon the action to be taken on the Working Party's proposals.