

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TD/W/23
26 May 1966

Limited Distribution

Committee on Trade and Development

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

For the Meeting of the Committee to be Held
on 7 and 8 June 1966

The CONTRACTING PARTIES have recently approved the Committee's report of 18 March 1966 and its various proposals (L/2614). In the light of the Committee's recommendations and discussions in the CONTRACTING PARTIES and in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the secretariat has drawn up the present provisional agenda for the meeting of the Committee to be held on 7 and 8 June 1966.

It has been suggested that the Committee on Trade and Development should focus its attention on matters related to the activities of the Kennedy Round and such other matters as need to be taken up on a basis of priority. In the light of these suggestions, the Committee may in particular wish to establish for the period June to September 1966 a programme of work in connexion with the following matters:¹

I. Implementation of Part IV of the General Agreement

It will be recalled that early in 1965 the Committee established and the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their twenty-second session approved certain "reporting procedures" designed to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of Part IV of the General Agreement (BISD, 13th Supplement, pages 79-80, paragraphs 11-13). On the basis of the information supplied by contracting parties in pursuance of those procedures, the Committee reviewed the developments in this field on three occasions, namely in July and December 1965 and March 1966.

In the light of the experience gained on the operation of those procedures over the past year, the Committee has made certain suggestions on the kind of information which reports from governments in future should include, and some contracting parties have referred to the need for improvement in the existing procedures (L/2614, paragraph 9 and SR.23/10). At its present meeting the Committee

¹A separate paper (COM.TD/W/24) will review the programme of the work of the Committee as a whole with particular reference to items not included in the present agenda.

could examine this question further with a view to formulating recommendations on appropriate modifications in the procedures so as to ensure that full and comparable information is obtained from governments regarding action taken to implement Part IV of the General Agreement. This would enable another review to be initiated this summer for completion later this year.

II. Quantitative restrictions

The Committee may wish to set the date for a meeting of the Group on Residual Restrictions to hold discussions with contracting parties concerned on quantitative import restrictions applied by them on products notified as being of export interest to less-developed countries in the context of the Kennedy Round and not yet discussed in the Group (see COM.TD/B/W/5). In accordance with the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES as noted in SR.23/10, the Committee may also wish to make arrangements for action on reports to be received from governments on the elimination of restrictions listed in COM.TD/W/19.

III. Expansion of trade among less-developed countries (other measures)

The Committee may wish to set a date for the meeting of the Group on Expansion of Trade Among Developing Countries to discuss certain suggestions in regard to measures in the non-tariff field for the expansion of trade among less-developed countries which were put forward at the last meeting of the Group (COM.TD/D/3, pages 3-5).

IV. Participation of less-developed countries in the Kennedy Round

The Committee may wish to make arrangements for a review of recent developments in the Kennedy Round of interest to less-developed countries, with particular reference to the activities of the Group on Tropical Products and the participation of the less-developed countries in the negotiations.

V. Date and agenda for the meeting in Montevideo

The Committee may wish to consider this question with a view to taking a final decision at its next meeting (SR.23/10, page 157).