

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

G/52/Add.2

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General Distribution

## GERMAN TREATMENT OF IMPORTS OF SARDINES

### Reduction of Customs Duties

The letters exchanged by the German and the Norwegian Delegations, consequent upon the examination of the complaint of the Government of Norway at the Seventh Session and the recommendation made by the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the two Governments, were reproduced in document G/52/Add.1. The Government of Germany undertook, in its letter, to use its influence with the legislative bodies to reduce the bound tariff rates on sprats and herrings from 25 and 20 per cent respectively to 15 per cent ad valorem and to maintain the ratio between this rate and the rate of 14 per cent applicable to sardines. The German Government also undertook to enter into negotiations with the Norwegian Government with a view to increasing the quotas fixed in the German-Norwegian Trade Agreement if these quotas should prove to be insufficient.

The Government of Germany has now informed the Executive Secretary that the law approving the Tariff Agreement of 30 December 1953 between Germany and Norway came into force on 5 July 1954. By this Agreement the German customs duties on sprats and herrings (Tariff Nos. ex 1604-C-1-d and ex C-1-e) are reduced to 15 per cent and the German Government undertakes that, if the rate of 14 per cent on sardines (Tariff No. ex 1604-C-1-b) is altered, the ratio between this rate and the reduced rates for sprats and herrings will be maintained. Further, the German Government accepts an obligation to increase the import quota for sprats and herrings on the request of the Norwegian Government if the present quota should be found to be too small. Either party can withdraw from the agreement on six months' notice from the end of any quarter year.