

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR A GATT IN-TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG OFFICIALS HOLDING UNTAA SCHOLARSHIPS

1. At the Ninth Session, the representative for Chile suggested the desirability of making facilities available for young officials of contracting parties to GATT to familiarize themselves in the GATT secretariat with important questions dealt with in the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. (See document L/254, paragraph 18). The Budget Working Party was not in a position to consider this suggestion, but it was understood that the Executive Secretary would examine the administrative and financial implications of such a proposal.
2. The Executive Secretary discussed with the United Nations Technical Administration the possibility of arranging a GATT in-service training programme by means of a limited number of fellowships granted by that Administration. The UNTAA informed him that, if countries in need of this type of assistance requested fellowships, it would be prepared to grant them to suitably qualified candidates nominated by their governments. Training facilities in the GATT secretariat would be available for a small number of candidates for a six-month course starting early in 1956, and for a second small group starting in mid-1956. In order to give effect to such a scheme, however, it would be necessary to receive nominations not later than 15 November.
3. The GATT training scheme would be available to men and women who have completed university training in economics or similar subjects and who are permanent officials of governments parties to the GATT, and otherwise eligible for technical assistance under the United Nations programme. Only in very exceptional circumstances, nominations would be considered of candidates who are not in the employment of one of the economic ministries or agencies of the government. Candidates must have a good command of spoken and written English or French.
4. In accepting a fellowship, the holder would undertake to spend full time in the programme as directed by his supervisor in the secretariat. At the end of his award, he would prepare a full report on his experience and work during his fellowship.
5. During the period of the award, the Technical Assistance Administration would pay to each fellow a stipend at the daily rate of Swiss Francs 23.— including Sundays and holidays. It should be noted that this allowance is intended to cover normal living expenses of one person only. In addition, the TAA would provide each trainee with a sum equivalent to US dollars 50.— to buy books related to his training programme, and would bear the cost of that part of the round-trip air tourist travel to Geneva which the trainee's own government does not pay.

6. Governments whose candidates receive awards would undertake to provide or ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made to cover all expenses within the trainee's home country incidental to travel abroad, including the expenditures for passports, visas, medical examination, clothing, etc., and to continue each trainee's salary or make other appropriate arrangements to maintain his dependents while he is abroad.

7. The nominations would have to be countersigned by a responsible official of the government concerned and sent to the Executive Secretary of the GATT. The selection of the fellows would be made by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, on the recommendation of the Executive Secretary of the GATT.

8. In view of the confidential nature of the work done in the GATT, the fellows accepted as trainees in the GATT Secretariat, would be bound vis-à-vis their respective governments to exercise the same discretion as they would if they were still working in their ministries. Furthermore, they would be required to take the same pledges towards the GATT Organization as are required of other temporary or permanent officials.

9. The object of the training programme is to give trainees a practical course on the procedures and methods most appropriate for dealing with such problems of a commercial or economic nature as they will have to consider during their official career at home. Apart from a course dealing with commercial policy and GATT problems in general, the trainee would be required to take an active part in the actual work done in the secretariat.

10. The general syllabus would be as follows:

1 month in the Office of the Executive Secretary for the purpose of becoming familiar with the organizational, liaison, legal and diplomatic work of the secretariat.

1 month in the Trade Intelligence Unit for the purpose of acquiring first-hand knowledge of special methods devised by GATT secretariat for analyzing commercial trends and deriving conclusions as to future prospects in given markets.

1 month in the Operations Unit for the purpose of acquiring first-hand experience in the processing of work and working methods in a unit responsible for the examination of specific matters (complaints, requests for renegotiations, etc.). During this period, each trainee would become acquainted with the work of each sub-unit.

During the last three months, the trainees would be associated with staff members in the secretariat. Each trainee would have to duplicate one of the officials in the permanent secretariat in some of his functions. He would, for instance, be requested to analyze reports or information received and prepare a note for circulation in the secretariat. The draft would subsequently be commented upon and compared with the note or report drawn up by the staff member. Trainees would also be called upon to duplicate the work of staff members in the preparation of any summary record or the drafting of any reports which may be needed during sessions held when they are at the secretariat. Their work would also be examined and compared with that of the staff members called upon to give them guidance.