

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM DUTY RATES IN INDONESIA

Statement submitted by the Government of Indonesia

The Indonesian Government has informed the secretariat, in a communication dated 9 October 1957, of the following changes in its tariff system:

(1) Imports from countries which enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment will continue to pay the basic legal rates, or the lower contractual rates, if any. These rates will be called minimum rates.

(2) In future rates of duty which are double the minimum rates (or 12 per cent on duty-free products), called maximum rates, may be applied, if considered necessary, by Presidential Decree to imports from countries not enjoying most-favoured-nation treatment.

The relevant provisions of the new Act, No. 27 of 1956, read:

"Article 1

To the General Regulations No. 1 up to No. 6 anticipating the Customs Tariff Applicable to Imports referred to in Article 1 of the "Indische Tariefwet" provided for by the Law of 29 December, 1933 (Netherlands Indies Gazette of 1934 No. 1), as has been amended later, of which the latest amendments were made by virtue of the Law No. 12 of 1952 (Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia No. 57), besides that they are renumbered to become No. 2 up to No. 7, herewith a new regulation is made as No. 1, reading as follows:

1. The Customs Tariff Applicable to Imports comprises minimum and maximum rates of duty. The import duties set forth in the Customs Tariff Applicable to Imports are the minimum rates; the maximum rates equal the minimum rates multiplied by two, while to goods imported free of import duties, a rate of 12 per cent ad valorem is applicable as the maximum rate. By virtue of a Presidential Decree, the maximum tariff can be declared to be applicable to the goods originating or imported from countries:

(a) which do not treat Indonesia in the same way as other countries in respect of trade or navigation or which accord a treatment which is to be deemed inconsistent with the economic interest of Indonesia.

(b) which have no binding tariff agreement with Indonesia.

The Minister of Finance will issue regulations concerning the submission of evidence indicating the origin of goods to which the maximum rates have been declared applicable or the place from where those goods are considered to have been imported.

2. The words "Gouverneur Generaal" as are contained in No. 7 of the General Regulations referred to in section (1) above shall be replaced by "The Minister of Finance".

Article 2

The "Indische Retorsiewet" of 26 March 1936 (Netherlands Indies Gazette No. 226) is herewith deleted.

Article 3

This Act will come into force as from the day of its promulgation. In order that no one may claim ignorance of the contents of this Act, its promulgation is ordered by its publication in the Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia.

Made at Djakarta on the twenty-sixth day
of December 1956."