

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/1193
19 May 1960

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CONTRACTING PARTIES
Sixteenth Session

INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Work of the Committee between the Fourteenth and Sixteenth Sessions

(Note by the Executive Secretary)

This note outlines briefly the work of the Committee since the fourteenth session. The Committee met five times during this period, on 6 and 12 October 1959 (IC/SR.45), on 14 March 1960 (IC/SR.46), on 20 April 1960 (IC/SR.47), on 26 April 1960 (IC/SR.48) and on 9, 10 and 11 May 1960 (IC/SR.49). At these meetings the Committee dealt with the following questions:

(a) Request by the United States for authority to renegotiate concessions in Schedule XX

A request by the United States (GATT/AIR/170(SECRET)) for authority, under paragraph 4 of Article XXVIII, to renegotiate certain concessions in Schedule XX was considered by the Committee in October 1959.

The Committee agreed that special circumstances existed in the sense of Article XXVIII:4 and authorized the United States to enter into renegotiations as requested.

(b) Requests by Australia for authority to renegotiate concessions in Schedule I

Four requests by Australia (GATT/AIR/182(SECRET), GATT/AIR/190(SECRET), GATT/AIR/191(SECRET) and GATT/AIR/193(SECRET)) for authority, under paragraph 4 of Article XXVIII, to renegotiate certain concessions in Schedule I were considered by the Committee in March and April 1960.

In each case the Committee agreed that special circumstances existed in the sense of Article XXVIII:4 and authorized Australia to enter into renegotiations as requested.

(c) The European Free Trade Association

The Committee met in May 1960 to give contracting parties the opportunity of obtaining from the Member States of the Association any further factual information or clarification they required about the provisions of the Stockholm Convention in addition to that supplied by the Member States in their replies (L/1167) to the questions from the contracting parties which had been transmitted to them in the form of a consolidated questionnaire by the Executive Secretary. The supplementary questions asked during the meeting of the Committee and the replies given by the Member States have been consolidated and distributed in document L/1167/Add.1.