

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/2097

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Committee on the Legal and Institutional Framework

MEASURES TO OFFSET SUBSIDIES GRANTED BY
LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Replies to Questionnaire

At its meeting held from 14 to 18 October, the Committee asked Committee III to enquire into the extent to which developed countries may be using anti-dumping or countervailing duty legislation as permitted under Article VI to offset the use of subsidies by less-developed countries. Committee III, at its meeting of 21 to 31 October (L/2080, paragraph 67) directed that a questionnaire be issued to all contracting parties on the subject in order to obtain information on the extent to which such measures have been used.

A questionnaire was issued in GATT/AIR/356 and 362. Replies received to date are summarized below.¹

- Austria - "... has not taken or initiated since 1 January 1960 any action to impose anti-dumping or countervailing duties on products imported from contracting parties which are less-developed countries, or from any less-developed territories of contracting parties."
- Ceylon - "... has not subsidized the export of non-primary products and consequently has not met with any difficulties through the imposition by importing countries of anti-dumping and countervailing duties during the period in question."
- Cyprus - "... as far as... [the Government] are aware, no anti-dumping and countervailing duties have been imposed on non-primary goods exported by Cyprus to any contracting parties or associated governments."
- Denmark - "... has not imposed anti-dumping or countervailing duties to offset subsidies on products imported from less-developed countries."

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¹ Just before this document was to be rolled off, replies were received from Canada, Norway and Sweden, all reporting in substance that no measures of the kind contemplated by the questionnaire had been applied to offset export subsidies on non-primary products of less-developed countries during the period 1960-1963.

- Germany,
Fed. Rep. of - "... no anti-dumping or countervailing duties on non-primary products have been imposed by the Federal Republic of Germany since 1 January 1960."
- Italy - "... during the period 1960-63, the competent Italian authorities at no time applied anti-dumping or countervailing duties to non-primary products imported from contracting parties or from less-developed territories of contracting parties."
- Rhodesia and
Nyasaland - Submits nil return on questionnaire.
- South Africa - Reports that ordinary dumping duty was imposed on 25 August 1961, and remains in force, on imports from Israel of goods falling within the following product description:

"Yarn, threads and twists, containing 50 per cent or more by weight of cotton, but excluding yarn for making carpet and floor rugs, mercerized knitting, and sewing, embroidery, darning and crochet yarn, threads and twists. Yarn for making carpets and floor rugs was deleted from the exclusions on 9 August 1963."
- Switzerland - "... up to now Switzerland has used no measure of the kind contemplated in the questionnaire."
- Tanganyika - "... have nothing to submit."
- Turkey - "... there has been no case of anti-dumping and countervailing duties imposed on Turkish exports since 1960."
- United Kingdom - "... have taken no action under Article VI as set out in Part A of the questionnaire."
- United States - "The only action of any relevance to the questionnaire relating to use of Article VI by the United States was a 1954 Treasury Department decision imposing countervailing duties on cordage from Cuba. In 1958 it was determined that the bounties or grants were being continued only on those types of cordage classified under Cuban law as "baler twine" and "binder twine". Under the United States Tariff Schedules, twines in this classification are duty free and hence are not subject to countervailing duties under Section 303 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. If they were not so classified by United States customs officials, however, they would be subject to ordinary tariff duties and therefore to countervailing duties."

