

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## APPLICATION OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT

### Territories to which the Agreement is Applied

The following communication dated 5 April 1965 has been addressed to the Director-General by the United States Mission in Geneva.

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In reviewing the "List of Contracting Parties to GATT and the Territories in Respect of which the Application of the General Agreement has been made Effective" (BISD 12S, page 8 and L/2337), my Government notes that the list refers in the case of certain countries to "Antarctic territory", "Antarctic territories", or "Antarctic possessions".

The Government of the United States of America wishes to point out that it does not recognize any of the claims of sovereignty which have been asserted over territory in Antarctica nor does it recognize any basis for any country to apply such an agreement as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to that area. Moreover, the Government of the United States of America reserves all of the rights of the United States of America with respect to Antarctica. It calls attention, in this connexion, to Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty, signed at Washington on 1 December 1959.

I should greatly appreciate it if you could issue an official GATT document advising contracting parties of the position of my Government on this matter.

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