

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND PORTUGAL

### Information Furnished by the Parties to the Agreements

This report covers the period from 1 October 1977 until 30 September 1979.

The FTA between the EEC and Portugal which entered into force on 1 January 1973, and the FTA between member States of the ECSC and the ECSC, on the one hand, and Portugal on the other hand, which entered into force on 1 January 1974 have functioned normally and have been applied in accordance with their provisions.

The objective of the Agreements is to eliminate progressively the obstacles to substantially all the trade between the parties, in accordance with the provisions of the GATT concerning the establishment of free-trade areas.

The main results are as follows:

1. Since 1 July 1977 almost all industrial products are traded free of duty between the parties to the Agreement. For the tariff treatment of other products, see paragraph 3 below.
2. On the date of entry into force of the Agreements no quantitative import restrictions existed between the parties, except those which Portugal is allowed to maintain in accordance with Protocol No. 6 to the Agreement EEC/Portugal and Protocol No. 2 to the Agreement ECSC/Portugal, the latter were nevertheless abolished on 1 July 1977.
3. Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement EEC/Portugal and ECSC/Portugal foresees a slower than normal rhythm of tariff reduction for certain sensitive products, and Protocol No. 2 to the Agreement EEC/Portugal provides for tariff reductions on processed agricultural products. Both Protocols have been applied as foreseen.

4. The rules of origin in Protocol No. 3 to the Agreement EEC/Portugal which determine the eligibility of products for the tariff reduction under the Agreements have been applied as foreseen. In accordance with the provisions of this Protocol the rules have, in specific cases, been amended and supplemented in order to facilitate their implementation and application (see Annex).

5. Tariff treatment granted by EEC for Portuguese exports of certain agricultural products (which range between tariff reduction of 30 per cent and exemption of customs duties) has been applied in accordance with the provisions of Protocol No. 8 of the Agreement.

6. The two Joint Committees, established to administer and supervise the implementation of the Agreements and also to act as a forum for the information and consultation procedures foreseen in the Agreements, have taken a certain number of decisions which provide for the simplification of the procedures of administrative co-operation and documentation.

#### 7. Commercial incidence

Approximately 95 per cent of the imports of the Communities from Portugal are covered by the Agreements. On imports of Portugal from the Communities this figure is 72 per cent.

#### Volume of commercial exchanges EC/Portugal in millions of UCE<sup>1</sup>

- Imports to the EC from Portugal:

1977: 996

1978: 1,166

- Exports to Portugal from the EC:

1977: 1,949

1978: 1,922

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<sup>1</sup>Source: EEC Statistical Office.

ANNEX

List of decisions of the Joint Committees

Under the FTAs on Origin Matters

EEC/Portugal

Subject	Decision No.	Official Journal of the EC No.
<p>Supplementing and amending Protocol No.3 and replacing certain Decisions of the Joint Committees (A consolidated text of Protocol No.3 and amendments to Lists A and B as a consequence of the recommended amendments to the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature</p>	<p>1/77</p>	<p>L/347/77</p>
<p>Derogation from the provisions of List A for tariff heading No.Ex.38.19</p>	<p>2/77</p>	<p>L/347/77</p>
<p>Amended value limits for minor consignments, smaller packages of no commercial purpose and travellers duty free imports</p>	<p>1/78</p>	<p>L/376/78</p>