

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/4969/Add.1

6 November 1980

Limited Distribution

Original: French

ACCESSION OF GREECE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Questions and Replies

Addendum

At the meetings of the Working Party on the Accession of Greece to the European Communities on 24 June 1980 and 14 July 1980, the President of the Working Party recalled that all members of the Working Party had the right to submit further questions to the secretariat for circulation, and urged the parties to the Act to do their utmost to provide all the information sought (Spec(80)20/Rev.1, paragraph 74; Spec(80)27/Rev.1, paragraph 16). In response to that invitation, the secretariat received some questions which it transmitted to the parties to the Act. The replies received are reproduced in the present document.

ANNEX 1

Questions and Replies

Question 1

With reference to the answer provided to Question 19 in L/4969 of 28 April 1980, can the parties to the Act indicate how third countries will be able to ensure that their rights are not impaired unless conversions of specific and compound rates to ad valorem equivalents, and vice versa, are provided?

Reply 1

At the meeting of the Working Party on 14 July 1980, the parties to the Act undertook to make available to the Working Party the ad valorem equivalents of specific and compound duties, for both the EEC and Greece.

Question 2

With reference to Question 25(d) in L/4969: The Treaty states (page AN/II/47 of Annex II) with respect to EC plant health legislation - "The text and the annexes of this directive must be adapted to take account of the ecological conditions and the plant health situation which characterize the Hellenic territory and the territories of the present Member States". When will adaptation of Greek technical rules begin in order to meet the stated target of 1 January 1981 for full implementation? Do the parties to the Act foresee any difficulties in effecting such adaptation?

Reply 2

Adaptation of Greek technical rules will be undertaken during a transitional period of at least two years. The Commission considers that, taking into account that period, adaptation should be feasible without undue difficulty.

Question 3

With reference to Questions 29-30 of L/4969, can the parties to the Act indicate how the current Greek import approvals system and system of verification of authenticity of payments are to be modified?

Reply 3

Any modification of the current Greek import approvals system and system of verification of authenticity of payments will be made consistently with the obligations of Greece under the General Agreement and the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. Specific questions on this subject could be better dealt with in the appropriate GATT committee.

Question 4

With reference to Question 58 of L/4969, can the parties to the Act indicate what specific arrangements may be needed to enable Greece to accept the Agreement on Government Procurement?

Reply 4

The parties to the Act are of the opinion that questions regarding application of one or other of the MTN codes within the enlarged Community are essentially of interest to the signatories. The parties consider, therefore, that any concrete problems can be discussed within the appropriate committee of signatories.

Question 5

The EC has been granting levy reductions on Italian sea-borne imports of feed corn and barley from third countries in recent years, in compensation for Italy's unfavourable geographical location as regards higher freight and trans-shipment costs. Are the parties to the Act considering the application of a similar derogation for Greece?

Reply 5

There is no existing provision envisaging any derogation of the type mentioned in the question. Reference may be made in this connexion to Regulation (EEC) No. 1878/80 of 15 July 1980 which stipulates, inter alia, that the levy reduction will cease as from the 1983/84 marketing season.

Question 6

Italy has been granted levy reductions for feeder calves imported from third countries in recent years. These derogations are set according to the EC supply situation and are valid for only ninety days. Are the parties to the Act considering applying similar derogations for Greece, and, if so, considering extending the validity period in order not to discriminate against distant suppliers?

Reply 6

Most imports of animals for fattening take place in the EEC under the "estimate" as established in the Community regulations. No member State at present has the benefit of a derogation, and there is no question of granting one to Greece.

Question 7

Can the parties to the Act elaborate on the time-table which will be used for the introduction of the Common Agricultural Policy to Greece, particularly concerning the application of variable levies for live cattle, poultry for breeding, unsweetened milk, milk powder, wheat, wheat flour, wheat gluten, and barley?

Reply 7

Application of the mechanisms of the common agricultural policy, and in particular the introduction of levies, will be immediate, that is to say on 1 January 1981. As regards more specifically the application of tariff movements and price movements, this will take place in accordance with the attached time-table.

Question 8

Can the parties to the Act indicate what steps will be taken to ensure that obligations of the Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade and Import Licensing Procedures are met with respect to imports into Greece upon accession?

Reply 8

The parties to the Act are of the opinion that questions regarding application of one or other of the MTN codes within the enlarged Community are essentially of interest to the signatories. The parties consider, therefore, that any concrete problems can be discussed within the appropriate committee of signatories.

Question 9

Does Greece intend to apply trade restrictions maintained for balance-of-payments reasons to other member States after accession?

Reply 9

The Greek Government intends to eliminate balance-of-payments restrictions currently in force before the end of 1980. Any action that might be taken after accession would have to be consistent with the appropriate provisions of the Rome Treaty.

ACCESSION OF GREECE - TIME-TABLE FOR TARIFF MOVEMENTS AND PRICE MOVEMENTS

MEASURE	TARIFF MOVEMENTS				PRICE MOVEMENTS	
	vis-à-vis third countries	between Greece and "9" EEC				
PRODUCT	Fruit and vegetables, fishery and wine products, for which reference prices are fixed	Other products	Bovine meat sector	Other products	Tomatoes and peaches covered by Reg. 1035/72 and products processed from tomatoes or peaches covered by Reg. 516/77	Other products
COLUMN	1	2	3	4	5	6
PERIOD AND RATE OF MOVEMENT	application of CCT as from 1.1.81	10 % 1.1.81 (a) 10 % 1.1.82 20 % 1.1.83 20 % 1.1.84 20 % 1.1.85 20 % 1.1.86	20 % beg. 81 season 20 % beg. 82 season 20 % beg. 83 season 20 % beg. 84 season 20 % beg. 85 season	10 % 1.1.81 10 % 1.1.82 20 % 1.1.83 20 % 1.1.84 20 % 1.1.85 20 % 1.1.86	1/7 beginning 81 season 1/6 beginning 82 season 1/5 beginning 83 season 1/4 beginning 84 season 1/3 beginning 85 season 1/2 beginning 86 season 1 beginning 87 season	1/5 beg. 81 season 1/4 beg. 82 season 1/3 beg. 83 season 1/2 beg. 84 season 1 beg. 85 season
REFERENCE	Article 64 par. 2b	Art. 64 par. 2a	Article 64 par. 1	Art. 64 par. 1	Article 59 par. 2	Art. 59 par. 3

(a) with immediate application of CCT if the difference between basic duty and CCT duty does not exceed 15 per cent

(*) At the beginning of each season, the price (or aid) applicable in Greece is aligned with the common level in the proportion indicated and in accordance with the provisions of Articles 59, 68, 77 or 81 which allow account to be taken, inter alia, of changes in common prices (or aids) in the course of the transitional period.

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