

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## REVISION OF THE INVENTORIES OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES - AGRICULTURAL DOCUMENTATION

### Note by the secretariat

1. At their thirty-fifth session in November 1979, the CONTRACTING PARTIES agreed as part of the future work programme of the GATT that in the context of the continuation of the process of trade liberalization, the secretariat should be requested to update the relevant information (BISD 26S/221). A proposal by the Director-General (C/110) relating to continued work on the documentation on non-tariff measures (contained in documents MTN/3B/1-5 and Addenda and MTN/3E/DOC/5-10 and 12 and Addenda) was adopted by the Council on 26 March 1980 (C/M/139, item 7). In accordance with these procedures, contracting parties were invited to notify the secretariat of changes that would have to be made in the inventories (GATT/AIR/1624).

2. With respect to agricultural non-tariff measures, it appeared from the first replies to that invitation that only a few minor changes in the inventory on agricultural non-tariff measures were necessary. It was therefore felt to be sufficient to issue the information received in supplements and corrigenda to existing documentation, in other words to continue the practice followed since the last major revision of the documentation in 1974. However, pending a complete revision of all inventories of non-tariff measures (agriculture and industry), this practice was discontinued at the end of 1980.

3. The secretariat is now preparing a completely revised documentation on non-tariff measures. The inventory of agricultural non-tariff measures will be issued under a new symbol; the AG/DOC/-series. However, the basic structure of the documentation will be maintained in accordance with the Council decision of 26 March 1980. The revised documentation will be based on the existing one, including supplements and corrigenda and any other information which has been submitted to the secretariat recently, but not yet circulated to contracting parties. Delegations still wishing to submit further information, should do so without delay. The revision will cover the following documents, which constitute the inventory of agricultural non-tariff measures:

- i. MTN/3E/DOC/5/Rev.1 and addenda 1 to 19 to MTN/3E/DOC/5
- ii. MTN/3E/DOC/6/Rev.1 and addenda 1 to 8 to MTN/3E/DOC/6
- iii. MTN/3E/DOC/7 and addenda 1 to 10

- iv. MTN/3E/DOC/8 and addenda 1 to 25
- v. MTN/3E/DOC/9 and addenda 1 to 21
- vi. MTN/3E/DOC/10 and addenda 1 to 23
- vii. MTN/3E/DOC/12 and addenda 1 to 13

To each of the main documents there is an addendum for each country (or group of countries) which apply the measures notified. For the convenience of delegations, a complete list of the documents and addenda, is annexed to this note.

4. Documents listed under (i) to (iv) in paragraph 3 above are based on notifications by the countries applying the measures. However, indications are made of other countries having an interest in the particular measure. There are thus two things to be verified and if necessary revised. The country applying the measure should verify the particular addendum for that country. Other countries must confirm whether they still have an interest in the measures listed in the various addenda and check their comments, if any.

5. The documents listed under (v) to (vii) in paragraph 3 above are based on reverse notifications and fully subject to the procedure outlined in document C/110, paragraph 4. Countries having indicated an interest in these measures must confirm whether the notification should be maintained. Countries applying the measure should verify whether the description of the measure is still valid, i.e. they should verify the content of the addenda for their respective countries.

#### History of the Group 3(e) - Basic Documentation

6. For the convenience of delegations the history of the Group 3(e) - Basic Documentation, and notably that part of it which is usually called the inventory of non-tariff measures related to agricultural products, is recalled briefly in the following paragraphs.

7. Initially, the inventories were established as working documents for the Agriculture Committee established by the Council of Representatives in 1967 (BISD 15S/73) and were at the outset of the work covering certain agricultural products (or product groups) only. During the preparatory work for the Multilateral Trade Negotiations the inventories were revised several times and got the basic structure they actually have. These documents were issued in the COM.AG/W/- series (e.g. COM/AG/W/68 and addenda). Part of this documentation, i.e. the documentation on quantitative restrictions applied by a number of industrialized countries was subject to consideration by the Joint Working Group on Import Restrictions in 1970. Some of the comments made in that body are still contained in documents in the MTN/3E/DOC- series. A summary of the notifications contained in MTN/3E/DOC.7 and addenda is included in the updated versions of the Report of the Joint Working Group, last issued as L/5090.

8. After the adoption of the Tokyo Declaration in 1973 and the establishment of the Trade Negotiations Committee, the latter established the Group 3(e) and instructed the Group to deal with a number of specific tasks listed in the Programme of Work (MTN/2). One of these tasks was Task 3: Bringing up to date and completing the analytical and statistical documentation assembled in the context of the Programme of Work adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1967 in respect of all agricultural products (Chapters 1-24 BTN).

9. At its meeting in February 1974, the Group decided that the documentation on import measures (i.e., quantitative restrictions; variable levies and other special charges; health and sanitary regulations notified; various non-tariff barriers notified); export measures (including export measures not covered by the earlier documents); and production measures (self-sufficiency ratios; prices received by producers; and agricultural policies) should be completed and updated so as to cover the years up to and including 1973 or the position as of 1 January 1974, as the case may be. In order to present an overall picture of the situation as regards agriculture in individual countries and its relation to the economy as a whole, the Group also decided to establish documentation in the form of statements on agricultural policies. (MTN/5)

10. At its meeting in July 1974, the Group had before it document MTN/3E/5, giving the publication plan for the updated and completed documentation. It also had before it a progress report (MTN/3E/W/16) showing the status and contents of replies received from governments by 1 July 1974. The Group noted the progress made in updating and completing the documentation, expressed satisfaction at the large number of replies received and their coverage, and expressed the hope that governments would fill any gaps in the documentation as soon as possible. The Group agreed that the inventories of various measures should be open-ended. (MTN/5)

11. Subsequently, the secretariat undertook a complete revision of the documentation during the latter half of 1974. Since then there has been no major revision of the documentation, but the inventory has been updated on a continuous basis and the new information has been circulated to contracting parties as revised versions, supplements or corrigenda to the respective documents until the end of 1980.

ANNEX

INVENTORY ON AGRICULTURAL NON-TARIFF MEASURES

Relevant documents issued in the series GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

(i) MTN/3E/DOC/5/Rev.1

Inventory of measures and mechanisms influencing exports.

- Add.1 Australia
- Add.2 Botswana
- Add.3 Bulgaria
- Add.4 Canada
- Add.5 European Communities
- Add.6 Finland
- Add.7 New Zealand
- Add.8 Senegal
- Add.9 Sweden
- Add.10 Turkey
- Add.11 United States
- Add.12 Yugoslavia
- Add.13 South Africa
- Add.14 Hungary
- Add.15 Thailand
  
- Add.16 Tunisia
- Add.17 Switzerland
- Add.18 Norway
- Add.19/Rev.1 Austria

Note: Notifications by Argentina and Japan are mentioned explicitly in document MTN/3E/DOC/5/Rev.1, and no separate addenda have been issued for these two countries.

(ii) MTN/3E/DOC/6/Rev.1

Inventory of variable levies and other special charges on imports.

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| - Add.1/Rev.1            | European Communities |
| - Add.2                  | Hungary              |
| - Add.4                  | Sweden               |
| - Add.5                  | Switzerland          |
| - Add.6/Rev.1            | Yugoslavia           |
| - Add.7                  | Spain                |
| - Add.8/Rev.1 and Corr.1 | Austria              |

Note: Notifications by Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Norway and Tunisia are mentioned explicitly in document MTN/3E/DOC/6/Rev.1, and no separate addenda have been issued for these countries.

(iii) MTN/3E/DOC/7

Inventory of quantitative import restrictions applied by countries covered by the Joint Working Group.

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| - Add.1/Rev.2                             | Australia            |
| - Add.2 and Corr.1 to 5                   | Austria              |
| - Add.3 and Corr.1 to 3                   | Canada               |
| - Add.4 and Corr.1 to 6                   | Japan                |
| - Add.5 and Corr.1 to 4                   | Norway               |
| - Add.6                                   | Portugal             |
| - Add.7 and Corr.1 to 8                   | Sweden               |
| - Add.8 and Corr.1 to 3                   | Switzerland          |
| - Add.9 and Corr.1 and Suppl.1            | United States        |
| - Add.10, Corr.1 to 13 and Suppl. 1 and 2 | European Communities |

(iv) MTN/3E/DOC/8

Inventory of quantitative import restrictions applied by countries other than those covered by the Joint Working Group.

- Add.1	Argentina
- Add.2	Botswana
- Add.3	Brazil
- Add.4	Chile
- Add.5	Czechoslovakia
- Add.6 and Corr.1	Finland
- Add.7	Greece
- Add.8 and Corr.1	Hungary
- Add.9/Rev.2	Iceland
- Add.10	India
- Add.11 and Suppl.1	Israel
- Add.12	Jamaica
- Add.13	Republic of Korea
- Add.14	Kuwait
- Add.15	New Zealand
- Add.16/Rev.1	Peru
- Add.17	Poland
- Add.18	Senegal
- Add.19	South Africa
- Add.20 and Corr.1	Spain
- Add.21	Trinidad and Tobago
- Add.22	Thailand
- Add.23	Tunisia
- Add.24/Rev.2 and Corr.1	Yugoslavia
- Add.25	Romania

(v) MTN/3E/DOC/9

Inventory of sanitary and phytosanitary regulations notified.

- Add.1 and Corr.1 to 3	Australia
- Add.2, and Corr.1 to 2	Austria
- Add.3	Brazil
- Add.4 Corr.1 to 2 and Suppl.1	Canada
- Add.5 and Corr.1 to 6	European Communities
- Add.6	Finland
- Add.7	Greece
- Add.8	India

- Add.9 and Corr.1 to 3 Japan
- Add.10 Republic of Korea
- Add.11 Malaysia
- Add.12/Rev.1 New Zealand
- Add.13 Nigeria
- Add.14 and Corr.1 Norway
- Add.15 Peru
- Add.16 Portugal
- Add.17 South Africa
- Add.18 Spain
- Add.19 and Corr.1 to 2 Sweden
- Add.20 and Corr.1 Switzerland
- Add.21 and Corr.1 United States

(vi) MTN/3E/DOC/10

Inventory of various non-tariff barriers

- Add.1 and Suppl.1 Argentina
- Add.2 Australia
- Add.3 and Suppl.1 and 2 Austria
- Add.4 Brazil
- Add.5 Chile
- Add.6 Dominican Republic
- Add.7 Corr.1 and Suppl.1 and 2 European Communities
- Add.8 Greece
- Add.9 Haiti
- Add.10 and Corr.1 Japan
- Add.11 Republic of Korea
- Add.12 Nicaragua
- Add.13 Peru
- Add.14 Portugal
- Add.15 Spain
- Add.16 Switzerland
- Add.17 and Suppl.1/Rev.1 Turkey
- Add.18 Corr.1 and 2 and Suppl.1 United States
- Add.19 Uruguay
- Add.20 Yugoslavia
- Add.21 Canada
- Add.22 Egypt
- Add.23/Rev.1 Indonesia

(vii) MTN/3E/DOC/12

Inventory of various non-tariff barriers - Marketing standards and packaging and labelling regulations

- Add.1	Argentina
- Add.2/Rev.1	Australia
- Add.3 and Suppl.1	Austria
- Add.4 and Corr.1	Canada
- Add.5 and Corr.1 to 5	European Communities
- Add.6	Finland
- Add.7 and Corr.1	Israel
- Add.8/Rev.1 and Corr.1	Japan
- Add.9	United States
- Add.10	Uruguay
- Add.11	Nigeria
- Add.12	South Africa
- Add.13	Spain