

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Limited Distribution

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## INTERNATIONAL DAIRY PRODUCTS COUNCIL

### SEVENTH SESSION

#### Note by the Chairman

1. The International Dairy Products Council held its seventh session on 30 September 1982 under the chairmanship of Mr. C.G. O'Hanlon (Australia).
2. Under Rules 11 and 14 of its Rules of Procedure, the Council invited the representatives of Mexico and Panama, and representatives of OECD, UNCTAD, FAO and the Economic Commission for Europe, to attend the session's proceedings as observers.
3. The Council reviewed the functioning of the Arrangement, attaching particular importance to the review because at the end of 1982 the International Dairy Arrangement will have been in force for three years, i.e. the period on the basis of which the Arrangement operates. The functioning of the Arrangement was found to have been satisfactory during this first period of activity; in particular, mention was made of its contribution to better knowledge of the market and to the strengthening of international co-operation. The importance of the dynamic nature of its operation was also noted.
4. The Council took note of reports on the implementation of the Protocol Regarding Certain Milk Powders, the Protocol Regarding Milk Fat and the Protocol Regarding Certain Cheeses. It was informed that the Committees had reviewed the level of the minimum prices of the products covered by each of the Protocols and that no changes had been made to those prices. The Council was informed also that the Committees had agreed to give particular attention to the measures taken to promote domestic consumption of dairy products.

5. The Council took note of information furnished in response to Questionnaires 4 and 5.
6. For its evaluation of the situation in and outlook for the world market for dairy products, the Council had before it two documents prepared by the secretariat, namely a status report on the world market for dairy products (DPC/W/24) and a note on food aid operations (DPC/W/25). The Council noted concerns expressed regarding the market situation, in particular in respect of certain products such as skimmed milk powder. Emphasis was laid on the importance of co-operation and on the need for a responsible attitude by participants in order to maintain international market stability.
7. The status report on the world market for dairy products will be revised by the secretariat to take account of data and amendments communicated and comments made by participants, and will be made available for unrestricted distribution.
8. The date of the next session of the Council, as well as the 1983 sessions, will be decided later on after consultation with the participants.