

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

L/5601/Add.6

16 April 1984

Limited Distribution

Original: English

STATE TRADING

Notifications Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

SWEDEN

The following communication, dated 4 April 1984, has been received from the delegation of Sweden.

I. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

The following enterprise and products seem to be covered by the provisions of Article XVII:

Enterprise

Aktiebolaget Vin- och Spritcentralen
(The Wine and Spirit Co. Ltd.);

Products

Alcoholic beverages, liqueur, wine and strong beer.

II. Reason and purpose for introduction and maintaining State-trading enterprises

The State-trading enterprise mentioned above is maintained principally for reasons of a social, temperance, political and financial nature. Trade is regulated basically by the "Lagen om handel med drycker" ("Trade in Beverages Act") of 12 May 1977.

III. Description of the functioning of the State-trading enterprises

The State-trading enterprise has, in principle, the exclusive right to import alcoholic beverages into Sweden.

The quantities imported are determined in accordance with commercial considerations.

Prices of imported products are fixed with regard to costs, profit and rates of taxation.

Some kinds of wines and spirits are exported by the State-trading enterprise, while strong beer is exported by breweries in private ownership.

Prices of exported products are fixed in accordance with commercial considerations. Differences between export prices and domestic prices are due to the fact that export prices are wholesale prices while domestic prices are retail prices, also including taxes.

No long-term contracts are negotiated by the State-trading enterprise, nor are any State-trading methods used to fulfil contractual obligations entered into by the Government.

IV. Statistical information

Statistics with regard to production, import and export of alcoholic beverages are given in the annex.

V. Reasons why no foreign trade has taken place (if this is the case) in products affected

Does not apply.

VI. Additional information

None.

Production, Imports and Exports of Alcoholic Beverages, 1981-1983
 (Quantities of Alcoholic Beverages in Million Litres)
 (Values in SEK Million)

Commodity	Year	Production						Exports							
		Total		By State- trading enterprises		By others		Total imports		By State- trading enterprises		By others			
		Q	V	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V		
<u>Strong beer</u>	1981	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	4.9	19.7	1.3	2.3	-	-	1.3	2.3
	1982	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	6.9	29.7	1.2	2.6	-	-	1.2	2.6
	1983	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	7.7	40.1	3.3	9.8	-	-	3.3	9.8
<u>Wine</u>	1981	1.2	8.4	1.2	8.4	-	-	73.8	311.3	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	-	-
	1982	1.1	8.5	1.1	8.5	-	-	80.5	390.3	2.4	0.1	2.4	0.1	-	-
	1983	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	88.7	462.8	3.7	0.1	3.7	0.1	-	-
<u>Other alcoholic beverages</u>	1981	42.1	307.3	42.1	307.3	-	-	22.7	266.7	1.1	7.5	1.1	7.5	-	-
	1982	43.9	310.7	43.9	310.7	-	-	23.1	316.3	1.6	13.3	1.6	13.3	-	-
	1983	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	21.4	370.9	3.2	32.1	3.2	32.1	-	-