

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The GATT Commercial Policy Courses

Note by the Director-General

1. Nature of the Courses. The regular GATT Commercial Policy Courses are open to government officials, in principle from developing countries whether contracting parties to the General Agreement or not, who have, or may have in the future, responsibilities in the formulation and conduct of foreign trade policy within their administrations. Interest in these courses has continued to increase, and in recent years the demand for places on these commercial policy courses has far exceeded the number of fellowships available.

2. The principal aim of the GATT Commercial Policy Courses is to help the participants achieve a deeper understanding of trade policy matters, and to enable them to acquire a full, up-to-date knowledge of the GATT and its related instruments and of the work undertaken by it and other international bodies in the field of trade policy which will be helpful to them in work within their own administrations and promote a more effective participation of their countries in GATT activities.

3. The Programme. This covers topical questions in the field of international economic relations. It includes lectures and discussions on the principles and the structure of international trade, the working out and implementation of trade policy, the principal problems and sectors of international trade, the expansion of the trade and promotion of the exports of the developing countries, the provisions of the General Agreement, the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the various GATT bodies, the relationship between international trade and monetary problems, the agreements negotiated during the Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, and the Action Programme resulting from the 1982 Ministerial Meeting. Particular emphasis is laid on practical work which involves the organization of seminars, group discussions and the preparation of studies on subjects of particular interest to participants. In addition to GATT secretariat officials, a number of guest lecturers are invited to contribute to the courses, including senior officials from other international organizations, from permanent delegations and from the private sector. Recently a trade negotiation simulation exercise has been added reflecting constant efforts to improve the practical content of the course. Opportunities are also provided whenever possible for participants to attend meetings of GATT, so as to allow them to gain direct knowledge of the methods and procedures followed by the GATT in dealing with specific problems. Towards the end of the course, to round up the training, a fortnight's study tour abroad

takes place on the basis of a work programme proposed by the host governments and intended to familiarize participants with the trade policy of the countries concerned, to arrange visits to industrial and commercial centres, and to establish useful relations with both the public and the private sectors. Around the middle of the course a one-week study tour in Switzerland is also undertaken.

4. Activities in 1984. Two regular courses in commercial policy will have been held in the GATT in 1984. The first, held from 13 February to 7 June was the Fifty-seventh course. It was the first regular Spanish-speaking course and was attended by 24 officials. The Fifty-eighth course which is English-speaking began on 13 August and will end on 4 December. Twenty-five officials are attending this course. In addition to the two regular courses a Short Course on GATT and Trade Policy for CRCGT (Commonwealth Regional Consultative Group on Trade) Countries, was organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat in collaboration with the GATT, and held from 2-20 July. Ten officials attended this course. Annex B contains a list of the government officials who attended the GATT commercial policy courses in 1984. Since 1955, when this GATT activity was initiated, 907 officials from 112 countries and eight regional organizations have attended the regular courses (see Annex A).

5. Study tours. In the autumn of 1983, the participants in the Fifty-sixth French-speaking course visited Italy and France. In 1984, the participants in the Fifty-seventh Spanish-speaking course visited Spain. At the invitation of the Canadian Government, the participants in the Fifty-eighth English-speaking course visited Canada. For each of these three courses, a one-week study tour in Switzerland was also sponsored by the Swiss Authorities.

Lodging

6. The problem of lodging in Geneva remains a difficult one, especially since the studios rented by GATT since 1982 are no longer available. Participants in the present course, for example, were obliged to find accommodation in local hotels, or furnished studios, where the cost involved for medium-term rental is usually not compatible with the daily subsistence allowance allocated to participants. To some extent, assistance in finding accommodation was provided by Permanent Missions whose nationals were participating in the course. The secretariat, for its part, made every effort to help trainees in their search for reasonably-priced lodgings. The situation remains nevertheless unsatisfactory.

Acknowledgements

7. The Director-General wishes to express his gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme for its cooperation in the implementation of the fellowships, to the governments and organizations which have kindly received the participants during visits and study tours for their cooperation and hospitality, and to those lecturers from outside the GATT who have given their time to participate in the courses.

ANNEX A

Area Distribution of Participants in the Geneva Courses
from December 1955 to December 1984

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Africa</u> (Forty-four countries) (Five organizations)	<u>277</u>	<u>4</u>
Algeria	3	
Angola	1	
Benin	8	
Burkina Faso (ex Upper Volta)	3	
Burundi	7	
Cameroon	8	
Central African Republic	7	
Chad	3	
Comoros	1	
Congo	9	
Egypt	25	1
Equatorial Guinea	1	
Ethiopia	3	
Gabon	5	
Gambia	2	
Ghana	14	1
Guinea	5	
Guinea-Bissau	2	
Ivory Coast	3	
Kenya	6	
Lesotho	2	
Liberia	1	
Libya	2	
Madagascar	19	
Malawi	11	
Mali	9	
Mauritius	2	
Morocco	5	
Niger	2	
Nigeria	16	1
Rhodesia and Nyasaland (ex Fed. of)	4	
Rwanda	3	
Senegal	11	
Sierra Leone	5	
Somalia	3	
Sudan	6	
Swaziland	1	
Tanzania	9	
Togo	12	
Tunisia	10	
Uganda	5	
Zaire	12	
Zambia	4	1
Zimbabwe	2	

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Africa (cont'd)</u>		
CEAO	1	
CEPGL	1	
Mano River Union	1	
OAU	1	
UDEAC	1	
<u>Asia (Excluding Middle East)</u> (Twenty-five countries)	<u>195</u>	<u>13</u>
Afghanistan	1	
Bangladesh	8	
Burma	11	
China	4	
Fiji	2	
Hong Kong	9	9
India	27	
Indonesia	16	
Iran	5	
Japan		3
Kampuchea	3	
Korea	12	
Lao	2	
Malaysia	13	
Maldives	1	
Nepal	4	
Pakistan	16	
Papua New Guinea	1	
Philippines	17	
Singapore	6	
Sri Lanka	16	
Thailand	14	1
Tonga	2	
Viet Nam	3	
Other	2	
<u>Middle East (Seven countries)</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>1</u>
Iraq	3	
Israel	13	1
Jordan	1	
Lebanon	5	
Saudi Arabia	1	
Syria	12	
Turkey	24	

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Latin America and Caribbean Area</u> (Twenty-three countries) (Three organizations)	<u>222</u>	<u>18</u>
Argentina	21	
Barbados	3	
Bolivia	6	
Brazil	21	
Chile	16	1
Colombia	16	
Costa Rica	5	
Cuba	18	4
Dominican Republic	3	
Ecuador	10	
El Salvador	1	
Guatemala	1	
Haiti	12	
Honduras	4	
Jamaica	5	
Mexico	11	3
Nicaragua	4	1
Panama	3	2
Paraguay	7	1
Peru	18	
Trinidad and Tobago	5	2
Uruguay	10	1
Venezuela	11	3
Andean Common Market	1	
LAIA (ex LAFTA)	7	
SIECA	3	
<u>Europe (Thirteen countries)</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>11</u>
Bulgaria	12	1
Cyprus	2	
Czechoslovakia	1	2
Finland	3	
Germany, Fed. Rep. of		2
Greece	19	
Hungary	11	
Malta	3	1
Poland	17	3
Portugal	7	1
Romania	17	
Spain	1	1
Yugoslavia	14	
TOTAL (One hundred and twelve countries and eight organizations)	860	47

ANNEX B

PARTICIPANTS IN THE COURSES IN 1984

1. Fifty-seventh Commercial Policy Course (Spanish-speaking) -
February-June 1984

Country	Name and Title
Argentina	Miss María Susana ARANO, Senior Foreign Trade Analyst, Secretariat of Commerce, Buenos Aires.
Brazil	Mr. José Roberto GARRIDO Torres, Chief of LAIA Affairs Division, Customs Policy Commission, Ministry of Finance, Rio de Janeiro.
Chile	Mr. Luis GILLET Bebin, Assistant Director for Legal Affairs, Ministry of External Relations, Santiago de Chile.
Chile	Mr. Sergio Fernando GUERRA Marín, Chief of International Technical Assistance Department, Agricultural Planning Office, Santiago de Chile.
Colombia	Miss Margarita VARGAS ROJAS, Chief of Import Section, Colombian Foreign Trade Institute (INCOMEX), Bogotá.
Costa Rica	Miss Floria Eugenia OREAMUNO Boschini, Executive Assistant, Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy, San José.
Costa Rica	Mr. José Fabio CERDAS Ramírez, Foreign Trade Adviser, Ministry of Exports and Investment, San José.
Cuba	Mr. Félix Juan PIÑA Padrón, Trade Policy Specialist, Vice-Ministry for Commercial Policy with Capitalist Countries, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Havana.
Ecuador	Miss Yolanda Esther ANDRADE Sánchez, Chief of International Agreements Department, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Integration, Quito.
Ecuador	Mr. Anibal GALARZA Proaño, Chief of Import Department, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Integration, General Directorate for Foreign Trade, Quito.
Equatorial Guinea	Mr. Toribio Micha ELA MANGUE, Administrative Technical Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Malabo.
Haiti	Mr. Pierre-André GUILLAUME, Assistant Director for Trade, Department of Trade and Industry, Port-au-Prince.

Country	Name and Title
Honduras	Mr. Orlando VASQUEZ Tejeda, Economist, Department of Trade Policy, General Directorate for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Tegucigalpa.
Mexico	Mr. Ruperto PATIÑO Manffer, Adviser to the Under-Secretary for Foreign Trade, Secretariat of Trade and Industrial Development, Foreign Trade Division, Mexico City.
Nicaragua	Mr. Diego Manuel CHAMORRO MEJIA, Assistant Director for Countries, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Managua.
Panama	Mrs. Laura de BARRIOS, Trade Policy Analyst, Section for Trade Agreements with Central America, General Directorate for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Panama City.
Paraguay	Mr. Roberto Ramón RECALDE González, Chief of Legal and Administrative Affairs Division, International Economic Negotiations Unit, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Asunción.
Paraguay	Mr. José Milcíades MARTINEZ Lezcano, Chief of UN Agencies Division, Department of International Organizations, Treaties and Agreements, Ministry of Foreign Relations, Asunción.
Peru	Mrs. Moraima CARRASCO Molina, Director of Trade Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Integration, Lima.
Peru	Mr. Luis Eduardo AVALOS Sanguinetti, Chief of Foreign Trade Operations Department, Central Reserve Bank of Peru, Lima.
Uruguay	Mr. Juan Manuel FERNANDEZ Azpiroz, Technical Assistant, Trade Policy Division, General Directorate for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Montevideo.
Venezuela	Miss Yamile María Rosa DAANTJE Omaña, International Affairs Co-ordinator, Directorate for International Economic Organizations, Foreign Trade Institute, Caracas.
LAIA	Mr. Adolfo BLUM Montero, Technical Officer, Secretariat of the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), Montevideo (Uruguay).
SIECA	Mr. Luis Roberto CHAVEZ Villatoro, Economist, Department of Foreign Trade Policy, Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty for the Economic Integration of Central America (SIECA), Guatemala City (Guatemala).

2. Fifty-eighth Commercial Policy Course (English-speaking) -
August-December 1984

Country	Name and Title
Bangladesh	Mr. Habib Md. HABIBUDDIN, Research Officer, Commerce Division, Ministry of Commerce, Dhaka.
Brazil	Mr. José Hildebrando COSTA, Division Manager of External Commerce Statistics, Commission of Customs Policy, Ministry of Finance, Rio de Janeiro.
Burma	Daw WIN, Assistant Director, International Trade Department, Ministry of Trade, Rangoon.
China	Mr. Shichun WANG, Official, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Beijing.
Ghana	Mr. Eric Dan Kwesi AMENUVOR, Commercial Officer, International Organizations and Conferences Division, Ministry of Trade, Accra.
Hong Kong	Mr. Arthur HO Kin Wah, Trade Officer, Trade Department, Hong Kong.
India	Mr. B. BALAGOPAL, Under-Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi.
Jamaica	Miss Jennifer Elaine SHARPE, Administrative Officer, Foreign Trade Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Kingston.
Kenya	Mr. Muturi Nguro MIRIE, External Trade Officer, Department of External Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Nairobi.
Korea	Mr. Jong-Ki HONG, Assistant Director, Economic Organizations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul.
Lesotho	Mr. Joel Kolo LIBETSO, Trade Relations Officer, Ministry of Trade and Industries, Maseru.
Malaysia	Mr. Dzulkfle DZULKIFLI Mahmud, Assistant Director, International Trade Division, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Kuala Lumpur.
Maldives	Mr. Yameen Abdul GAYOOM, Foreign Trade Development Officer, Ministry of Trade and Industries, Male.

Country	Name and Title
Nigeria	Miss Ayodele H. M.-E. AGBELUSI, Assistant Secretary Upper, Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Lagos.
Pakistan	Mr. Muhammad Pervaiz KHAN, Research Officer (GATT), Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
Philippines	Miss Elaine T. QUINTOS, Chief, Multilateral Cooperation and Arrangements Section, Trade Policy Office, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Metro Manila.
Singapore	Miss YONG Siew Min, Manager, Trade Development Board, Singapore.
Sri Lanka	Mr. Atukoralage Don DHARMASENA, Assistant Director of Commerce, Department of Commerce, Colombo. [Presently First Secretary (Commercial), Embassy in Moscow (USSR).]
Tanzania	Mr. William M. LYAKURWA, Director of Research and Planning, Board of External Trade, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Dar-es-Salaam.
Thailand	Miss Chutima BUNYAPRAPHASARA, Economist, GATT/UNCTAD Section, Department of Business Economics, Ministry of Commerce, Bangkok.
Uganda	Mr. Alex Mackay OBURU, Chief Commercial Officer, Ministry of Commerce, Kampala.
Yugoslavia	Miss Gordana ZRNIC, Adviser, Yugoslav Chamber of Economy, Belgrade.
Zambia	Mr. Anthony M. SAMBO, Deputy Director, Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Lusaka.
Zimbabwe	Mr. Ivan MBIRIMI, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Commerce, Harare.
Mano River Union	Mr. Patrick Emmanuel ELLIOTT, Integration Economist, Economic Affairs Division, Mano River Union Secretariat, Freetown (Sierra Leone).