

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5687/Corr.2  
26 November 1984

Limited Distribution

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Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION IN PURSUANCE OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE  
UNDERSTANDING REGARDING NOTIFICATION, CONSULTATION,  
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE, AND PARAGRAPH 3  
OF THE DECLARATION ON TRADE MEASURES TAKEN FOR BALANCE-  
OF-PAYMENTS PURPOSES, ADOPTED ON 28 NOVEMBER 1979

Communication from Argentina

Corrigendum

1. In a communication dated 15 November 1984, Argentina has requested the secretariat to replace the title of document L/5687 with the above title, clarifying the basis for the notification.
2. For clarity, the following text, which incorporates the correction already issued in L/5687 Corr.1, should replace in entirety Page 1 of document L/5687.

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Under Decree No. 2045/84 the validity of Decree No. 319/83, referred to in document L/5643 of 22 June 1984, has been extended until 31 December 1984.

These import measures have had to be adopted because of the critical situation in the external sector that was facing the new government authorities which took office on 10 December 1983, reflected in a serious balance-of-payments deficit, a very low level of foreign exchange reserves and an external debt of more than \$43,000 million with short-term maturities 1984/85.

In these circumstances, export expansion possibilities were limited because of the maintenance and application of new protective measures in traditional markets of developed countries, and the renewed competition which may developed countries are launching on the basis of subsidies.

Consequently, the Argentine Republic had no alternative but to adopt an import régime that can allow it to ensure adequate development of the external sector of the economy, and smooth progress of the balance of payments, and at the same time to oppose the threat of a substantial drain on monetary reserves.

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Decree 319/83, as extended by Decree 2045/84 until 31 December 1984, has accordingly instituted an import régime providing for:

- (a) temporary prohibition of non-essential imports (Annex 1 to the above-mentioned Decree);
- (b) prior examination of sworn declarations of import needs in respect of certain products relating to public health, defence and security, and likewise to sectors in which domestic production is adequate. This prior examination is carried out by the Department of Commerce, acting individually, or jointly with the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Ministry of Defence, as appropriate;
- (c) all other imports are authorized automatically.