

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Notification by Austria

Addendum

In a communication dated 5 December 1984, the Permanent Mission of Austria has provided the following information regarding the reduction of GSP rates (a) on about 1,900 tariff items in step with the implementation of Tokyo Round concessions (two stages) and (b) on some tropical products, which will enter into force on 1 January 1985.

With reference to document L/4108/Add.18 of 17 February 1984, I have the honour to inform you that with effect from 1 January 1985, Austria will implement the sixth and the seventh stages of duty reduction under the Geneva Protocol (1979) to the GATT (Multilateral Trade Negotiations). The formula for calculating the tariff cut under the Austrian GSP scheme will also be applied on the most-favoured-nation rates thus reduced. As a consequence, preferential duty rates will be reduced accordingly.

It should be noted that the implementation of the seventh stage of MTN duty reduction originally was scheduled for 1 January 1986 only. However, with a view to promoting international trade and to combat protectionist tendencies, Austria - together with other Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) - has decided to advance the implementation of this stage by one calendar year.

This improvement of the Austrian GSP scheme results in reduced preferential tariff rates for around 1900 tariff lines. Due to the high number of tariff lines concerned, no individual description of the tariff situation can be given.

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With effect from the same date, the following improvements in preferential duty rates will be implemented in the Austrian GSP scheme for certain products falling within Chapters 1-24 of the Customs tariff:

Tariff heading	Product description	Preferential duty rate			
		before 1 January 1985		after	
		Group I	Group II	Group I	Group II
09.04	A - Pepper of the genus "Piper":				
	1 - Unground	5%	Free	free	free
	2 - Ground or otherwise crushed	14%	9%	9%	4%
09.09	B - Other:				
	1 - Unground	2%	free	free	free
	2 - Ground or otherwise crushed	6%	4%	4%	2%
09.10	B - Saffron:				
	1 - Unground	6%	free	free	free
	2 - Ground or otherwise crushed	10%	4%	free	free
09.10	C - Ginger:				
	1 - Unground	5%	free	free	free
	2 - Ground or otherwise crushed	14%	9%	9%	4%
21.02	A - Extracts of coffee, solid	10%	free	6%	free

It should be noted that in the two columns indicating the preferential tariff rates, the two rates refer to preference-receiving countries classified in Groups I and II of the list of beneficiaries under the Austrian scheme, respectively (Group II covers the least developed countries).

For clarification it should be mentioned that item 09.09 B "Other" covers seeds of anise, fennel, coriander, cumin, caraway and juniper.

Annex A of the Austrian GSP scheme is amended accordingly.