

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

IMC/INV/11/Rev.1/Add.2
28 November 1985

Arrangement Regarding Bovine Meat

Original: English

INTERNATIONAL MEAT COUNCIL

Inventory of Domestic Policies and Trade Measures and Information on Bilateral, Plurilateral or Multilateral Commitments

Reply to Part G of the Questionnaire

CANADA

Addendum

The participants have agreed to provide information concerning their domestic policies and trade measures including bilateral and plurilateral commitments on the basis of Parts G and H of the Questionnaire (Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure). The documents containing replies to these parts of the Questionnaire are circulated under the symbol IMC/INV; they are revised as and when changes are notified.

This set of documents constitutes the inventory of all measures affecting trade in bovine meat, including commitments resulting from bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations, which the Council has instructed the secretariat to draw up and keep up to date, under the provisions of Article III of the Agreement (Note to Article III of the Arrangement and Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure).

Part G

Part G.I Information on Domestic Policies
and Trade Measures

III. Measures at the frontier

On 21 December 1984, the Canadian Government decided to impose a restriction on the quantity of beef and veal that would be permitted entry into Canada during 1985. For the calendar year 1985 a global import quota was established under the Meat Import Act at a level of 66,500 tonnes which is equivalent to Canada's Global Minimum Access Commitment under the GATT. The import quota was allocated to supplying countries on the basis of their share of imports into Canada during the period 1979-83.

The Government's decision to invoke the Meat Import Act was considered necessary in view of the surge in imports of beef which took place in 1984 and the anticipated high level of imports in 1985. In particular, the rapid increase in imports of subsidized beef had a serious impact on slaughter cow prices in Canada which significantly reduced returns to Canadian cattle producers.

Following the introduction of the global quota, consultations were initiated immediately with the following countries which export beef to the Canadian market: Australia, EEC, New Zealand, Nicaragua, United States. These consultations were held with a view to working out an arrangement which could permit the suspension of controls while safeguarding the Canadian cattle industry from unfair and damaging import competition.

As a result of these consultations, it proved possible to allow some increase in the quantity of beef and veal that will be permitted entry into Canada during 1985. The increases in the original quota included agreements with the EEC and Nicaragua to permit imports up to 10,668 tonnes and 1,783 tonnes respectively, while certified high-quality beef was exempted from the quota.