

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Forty-Second Session

## EXPORT OF DOMESTICALLY PROHIBITED GOODS

### Communication from Sri Lanka

Consultations on export of domestically prohibited goods have been held in the framework of the Work Programme established by the 1982 Ministerial Declaration. There appears to be general agreement that GATT provides an appropriate framework for action in this area; that both importing and exporting countries should share responsibilities in this field; that transparency of trade-related measures is a very important element; that the notification experience acquired in other areas of GATT's activities, for example in the Code on Technical Barriers to Trade should be taken into account; and that GATT action on trade in domestically prohibited goods should complement but not duplicate the activities of other international bodies.

In order to carry work further in this area under the regular work programme of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the following decision is proposed for adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES:

The CONTRACTING PARTIES Agree:

- that contracting parties should undertake consultations with a view to establishing guidelines for action relating to trade in domestically prohibited goods, taking into account the following elements:
  - (i) notification of relevant laws and regulations;
  - (ii) information on specific measures restricting or prohibiting domestic sale, exports or imports of goods on grounds of human health and safety;
  - (iii) the need to maintain close contact with other relevant international organizations operating in this area, and to avoid, as far as possible, duplication of information provided in the context of other organizations;
  - (iv) procedures for consultation among interested contracting parties regarding any problem that may arise as a result of such measures;
  - (v) provision for periodic review of developments.
- that a report on such consultations be submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their 43rd Session.