

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TARIFFS AND TRADE

BOP/R/190
28 March 1991

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Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions

REPORT ON THE SIMPLIFIED CONSULTATIONS WITH
NIGERIA, THE PHILIPPINES, TUNISIA AND TURKEY

1. The Committee met on 19 March 1991, under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.-F. Boittin (France), to conduct consultations with Nigeria, the Philippines, Tunisia and Turkey under the simplified procedures for regular consultations with developing countries (BISD 20S/47) and the 1979 Declaration on Trade Measures Taken for Balance-of-Payments Purposes (BISD 26S/205).

2. The Committee had the following documents before it:

Nigeria

BOP/300 Statement submitted by Nigeria
and Add.1
BOP/W/136 Secretariat background paper

IMF, Recent Economic Developments dated 11 August 1989 and
Supplementary Background Information for the GATT dated 11 February 1991

The Philippines

BOP/304 Statement submitted by the Philippines
BOP/W/137 Secretariat background paper

IMF, Recent Economic Developments dated 6 February 1991

Tunisia

BOP/305 Statement submitted by Tunisia
BOP/W/138 Secretariat background paper
and Add.1
L/6829 Notification by Tunisia of "negative list"

IMF, Recent Experience in Structural Adjustment dated 19 October 1990

Turkey

BOP/301 Statement submitted by Turkey
BOP/W/139 Secretariat background paper

IMF, Recent Economic Developments dated 13 December 1990

3. On the basis of the above-mentioned documents, and taking into account Paragraph 8 of the Declaration on Trade Measures for

Balance-of-Payments Purposes, the Committee reached the following conclusions:

Nigeria

4. Members of the Committee welcomed the liberalization of trade and exchange restrictions pursued to date by Nigeria. Nevertheless, a number of restrictions introduced initially for balance-of-payments reasons remained in force.

5. The Committee welcomed Nigeria's readiness to hold a full consultation. In this context, the Committee noted that the Council was due to undertake a review of Nigeria's trade policy in September 1991. It was pointed out that, although the aims of the two consultations were different, it might be possible to use many of the same materials in preparing for the two meetings. A timetable for a full consultation would be established in discussion with all interested parties, bearing these elements in mind.

The Philippines

6. The Committee congratulated the Philippines on its liberalization programme in force, which was being pursued under difficult economic circumstances. Members of the Committee also expressed concerns regarding uncertainties surrounding the import surcharge which had recently been established at 9 per cent. It invited the Philippines authorities to notify this surcharge to the GATT as soon as possible.

7. Taking into account these circumstances, and the fact that the last full consultation with the Philippines was held in 1986, the Committee agreed that a full consultation should be held with the Philippines, at a date to be established in discussion with all interested parties.

Tunisia

8. The Committee welcomed the efforts being made by Tunisia, as a new contracting party to the GATT, to continue its liberalization programme, despite a difficult economic environment. However, it noted that a substantial list of restrictions was still in force, as notified to the GATT. It also recalled that the last full consultation with Tunisia had been held in 1979.

9. The Committee welcomed Tunisia's readiness to proceed to a full consultation, at a date to be determined in discussion with all interested parties.

Turkey

10. The Committee congratulated Turkey on the substantial trade liberalization which had been pursued since the last consultation.

Nevertheless, questions remained relating to some measures affecting imports, which it was felt merited a full consultation. The Committee welcomed Turkey's readiness to hold such a consultation, at a date to be determined in discussion with all interested parties.