

**GENERAL AGREEMENT  
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

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**COUNCIL**

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**TRADE POLICY REVIEW MECHANISM**

**Trade Policy Review of Australia**

**Communication from the Discussants**

Pursuant to the revised procedures for review meetings circulated in the communication from the Chairman of the Council dated 30 April 1993 (L/7208), the following are outlines of the main points to be raised by H.E. Mr. H.S. Kartadjoemena (Indonesia) and Mr. M. Yabunaka (Japan) at the review of Australia to be held on 3-4 February 1994.

It is recalled that discussants act in their personal capacity.

(a) **Ambassador H.S. Kartadjoemena**

1. Highlight of key macroeconomic factors of importance to Australia.
2. Changes and continuities in Australia's macroeconomic policy since the previous TPRM.
3. Contribution of Australia's macroeconomic policy to Australia's outward trade policy.
4. Contribution of Australia's macroeconomic policy to encouraging the further development of the multilateral system.
5. Future policy issues; how and what positive policies to continue.
6. What future problems remain to be resolved and the possibility of an exchange of views about the experience of various countries in resolving similar problems.

(b) **Mr. M. Yabunaka**

7. Trade liberalization measures in recent years, including the substantial tariff reduction and elimination of import quotas, are a welcome development. However, passenger motor vehicles and textiles, clothing and footwear products are treated differently, and their tariffs remain very high. What is the rationale to give such an exceptional treatment to these two sectors, and are there not any future plans to accelerate the reduction of these tariffs?

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8. In agricultural sectors, while it is quite an open market, strict quarantine regulations is a distinct feature. Is it a valid concern that they may in effect turn out to be trade-restrictive measures?
9. There seems to be a number of preferential and trade-restrictive measures in the area of "strategic" sectors, in particular, that of information technology/telecommunications equipment. What is the rationale/objective of such a policy, and are they of a permanent nature?
10. Is Australia prepared to join the Government Procurement Code? If not, what are the major impediments?
11. The number of anti-dumping measures and countervailing measures have increased substantially since 1991. What is the reason for such a rapid increase - is it to do with the increase of imports triggered by the trade liberalization measures?