

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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CONTRACTING PARTIES
Twenty-Second Session

PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSION

Note by the Executive Secretary

At a recent meeting of the Council (C/M/25) consideration was given to the arrangements that might be made for proceeding with the examination of the applications from certain governments which have indicated their desire to accede to the GATT and which have been granted provisional accession. There are five such Governments, namely Argentina, Iceland, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia. In addition, the Government of Ireland has expressed a desire to renew the discussion on terms of accession which was begun in 1960. The Council took decisions on two points:

1. The Council instructed the Trade Negotiations Committee to make provision for the participation in the Kennedy Round of any of the six Governments which wished to take part, it being understood that they would participate with a view to their full accession.
2. In order to expedite the work which must be carried out before accession can be finalized, the Council recommends to the CONTRACTING PARTIES that appropriate machinery be established for examining any matters concerning the terms of accession which are not directly related to the trade negotiations and for drawing up draft protocols of accession.

This item has been included in the agenda for the session so that the CONTRACTING PARTIES may implement the Council's recommendation in paragraph 2 above. For their consideration the following proposals are put forward:

- (a) That working parties be established to examine the various applications and that they be given the following terms of reference:

To examine the application of the Government of to accede to the General Agreement under Article XXXIII, taking full account of the work already accomplished by the working

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party which recommended provisional accession and of the results of 's participation in the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations, and to submit to the CONTRACTING PARTIES recommendations which may include a draft protocol of accession.¹

- (b) That, when an applicant country informs the Executive Secretary that it is ready to proceed with a discussion of terms of accession, the Executive Secretary should announce the date of the first meeting of the relevant working party and invite contracting parties wishing to be members of the working party to inform him. Before the day of the meeting the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES should appoint the Chairman of the working party.

¹For Ireland, the terms of reference would not include the reference to provisional accession and would refer instead to the work accomplished by the Working Party established by the Council in 1960.