

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Special Distribution

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF A GROUP OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1965

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. The twenty seventh in a series of meetings of a group of less-developed countries took place on 15 September 1965 under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. E. Letts, Ambassador of Peru.
2. The meeting was attended by the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Ceylon, Chile, Cuba, Indonesia, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia.
3. The Chairman informed the group that, due to the absence of some important delegations, an earlier meeting of the group which should have taken place on 14 September 1965 was called off. However, those delegations which were present took the opportunity to discuss on an informal basis, some aspects of the Australian request for a waiver. As a result of this exchange of views, it was generally felt that a small working group might be established (a) to examine in detail all the facets of the Australian proposal; (b) to collect all the elements which less-developed countries would wish to be incorporated in the scheme; (c) to contact the Australian delegation with a view to seeking further relevant information on the implications of the scheme; and (d) to consult the Australian delegation with a view to introducing such elements in the scheme as would make it more acceptable to less-developed countries. The small working group, after having worked on the lines indicated, should report its findings and suggestions to the main group for consideration.
4. After a brief discussion a small working group, as proposed, was established consisting of the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, India, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan, United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia, it being understood that any other less-developed countries, which considered it necessary to make its views known, would be accepted as a member of the small working group.
5. On the question of maintaining liaison between the small working group and the delegations of those less-developed countries which were not stationed in Geneva, it was suggested that such countries should make known their views on the Australian request for a waiver to the small working group. Further, any recommendation and proposals drawn up by the small working group would be made available to all less-developed countries. It was stressed that the small working group should keep the delegations of less-developed countries in Geneva informed of the time and dates of its meetings.

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