

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

## Multilateral Trade Negotiations

### GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

#### Inventory of Variable Levies and Other Special Charges on Imports

#### EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

##### Revision

1. The European Communities have submitted data concerning the amount of the import levies fixed during the period 1 January 1969-31 January 1974 for the following products:

	<u>BTN heading No.</u>
Meat of bovine animals	ex 01.02, ex 02.01, ex 02.06
Meat of swine	ex 01.03, ex 02.01, ex 02.05, ex 02.06, ex 15.01, 16.01, ex 16.02
Poultry	01.05, 02.02, 02.03, ex 02.05; ex 15.01, ex 16.02
Dairy products	04.01, 04.02, 04.03, 04.04, ex 17.02, ex 17.05, ex 23.07
Eggs	ex 04.05
Olive oil	ex 07.01, ex 07.03, ex 15.07, ex 15.17, ex 23.07
Soft wheat	ex 10.01
Durum wheat	ex 10.01
Rye	10.02
Barley	10.03
Oats	10.04
Maize	10.05

BTN heading No.

Rice	10.06
Buckwheat, grain sorghum, millet, canary seed	ex 10.07
Wheat flour	ex 11.01
Rye flour	ex 11.01
Cereal groats and cereal meal of soft wheat	ex 11.02
Cereal groats and cereal meal of hard wheat	ex 11.02
Processed products of grains and rice	ex 07.06, ex 11.01, ex 11.02, 11.06, 11.07, ex 11.08, 11.09, ex 17.02, ex 17.05, ex 23.02 <sup>1</sup>
Raw sugar	ex 17.01
White sugar	ex 17.01
Compound animal feeding stuffs	ex 23.07

2. This documentation is too voluminous to be reproduced for general circulation in the customary way, but the secretariat is holding it at the disposal of members of the Group who wish to consult it.

3. With respect to data concerning certain other products falling within the first twenty-four chapters of the Brussels Nomenclature not included in this list and subject to variable<sup>2</sup> levies, variable components or additional duties on their sugar and flour content<sup>2</sup>, the European Communities have stated that, given the volume of work involved in establishing such data on a global basis and covering a five-year period, it would be preferable for countries interested in particular products to forward their requests for information to the secretariat, and the Communities would then reply directly.

4. Although there are differences from one group of products to another, the amount of the levy is generally equal to the difference between the lowest offer price in the world market and an internal Community price. Imports of products subject to the levy are also subject to presentation of an import certificate.

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<sup>1</sup>The European Communities have furnished no data concerning the year 1969, because of modifications made in the tariff nomenclature during that year.

<sup>2</sup>Levies are also applied to the following products not falling within the first twenty-four chapters of the Brussels Nomenclature: 29.04 C II and III, 35.05 and 38.12 AI (tariff numbers published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 1 January 1974).

5. The amounts indicated in the documentation furnished are those of the levies applied by the Community in its original membership. The system of variable levies has been applied by the three new member States since 1 February 1973; during the transitional period, the amount of the levies depends on the progressive adjustment of prices.

6. In respect of the following headings, the existence of a binding within the framework of GATT sets a ceiling to the variability of the levy: 02.01 BII(c) 1-7, 02.03 A and B, 04.04 B, 07.06 A, 15.01 AI and B, 16.01 A, 16.02 AII and BI, 17.02 C (tariff numbers published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 1 January 1974).

7. For products of the food industry, prepared or preserved fruit and vegetables, the Community regulations provide as a general rule (Regulation No.865/68 of 28 June 1968 concerning the sector of products processed from fruit and vegetables, and Regulation No.1059/69 of 28 May 1969 concerning goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products) the charge of:

- (a) an ad valorem duty (which is the fixed component) and
- (b) a variable component (likewise called "additional duty on sugar" if sugar alone is concerned or "additional duty on flour" if flour alone is concerned).

The variable component is intended to cover, for the quantities of basic products considered to have been used in the manufacture of the goods, the incidence of the difference between the prices of those products in the Community and the prices of imports from third countries, when the total cost of those quantities of basic products is higher in the Community.

In most cases, the fixed component and, in many others, a maximum ad valorem of the two components together is bound (with the exception of the additional duty on sugar or on flour).

8. For certain products and in particular tomatoes, cucumbers (ex 07.01), fresh grapes (ex 08.04), apples and pears (ex 08.06), peaches, cherries and plums (ex 08.07), as well as certain wines (ex 22.05), a system of reference prices provides the possibility of applying a countervailing tax in certain conditions. In the case of products falling within headings Nos.12.01, 12.02, 15.04, ex 15.07, 15.12, 15.13, ex 15.17, ex 23.04 a compensatory amount may also be applied in certain conditions.

9. The European Community's previous notification was published in document COM.AG/W/68/Add.3 pages 14-78.