

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/3F/W/10  
5 July 1974

Special Distribution

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## Multilateral Trade Negotiations

### GROUP 3(f) - BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON CERTAIN TROPICAL PRODUCTS TUNG, BABASSU, TOBACCO AND OITICICA (NUTS, SEEDS AND OIL)

#### Note by the Secretariat

1. Among the items listed in MTN/3F/1, tung and babassu nuts and tobacco and oiticica seed as well as the oils thereof are included. The information provided hereunder is intended to update, to the extent possible, the details contained in document COM.TD/W/205.
2. These items, other than tung oil, are of relatively minor importance in terms of international trade in vegetable oilseeds and oils and are often not separately recorded in the trade returns of individual countries. Details of exports of tung oil by volume are, however, shown in Table 1. It is estimated that for the five years ended 1972, exports by value averaged about \$15 million annually, the main suppliers being Argentina, China and Paraguay. Other developing country exporters include Madagascar, Malawi, Brazil and Thailand. On the basis of information provided by the Commonwealth Secretariat in its publication "Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds" Brazil is also an exporter of babassu and oiticica oils and India an exporter of tobacco seed oil.
3. Details of commercial policy applying to these items in developed countries is indicated in Table 2. It will be noted that for the seeds and nuts, imports are permitted entry duty-free in all markets except Switzerland where there is a small most-favoured-nation duty and provision for the application of a levy if destined for food uses. With regard to the oils extracted from the seeds and nuts, duties are more prevalent and in some cases increase according to the degree of processing of the item concerned. Reduced or zero rates of duty apply to certain of these oils under the GSP schemes of the EEC, Norway and Sweden.
4. As to non-tariff measures, import restrictions are maintained by New Zealand when the oils under consideration are imported in small containers and Finland applies discretionary licensing to certain of the above oils and oilseeds. The table also indicates the application of a variable levy on certain items by Switzerland, a variable tax by Sweden and an import tax by Finland.

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO TABLES

Table 2 provides current information on tariff and non-tariff measures applied by the principal importing countries as of September 1973. However, the Australian duties indicated are those applied prior to a general tariff reduction (subject to certain exceptions) of 25 per cent introduced on 18 July 1973.

Duty rate

0	= Free
%	= Per cent ad valorem
[...]	= Provisionally applied rate of duty
(B-...)	= British or Commonwealth preferential rate of duty
(A - 0)	= Preferential duty-free treatment accorded to Associated African and Malagasy States
(E - 0)	= Preferential duty-free treatment accorded to East African Community (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania).

Non-tariff measures

V	= Import levy or tax
Q	= Quota
GQ	= Global quota
DL	= Discretionary licensing
ST	= State trading
R	= Import restriction (unspecified)
P	= Imports are generally prohibited
OM	= Other non-tariff measures
S	= Selective tax, e.g. excise tax or commodity tax.

Exports

*	= Provisional
F	= FAO estimates

TABLE I/TABLEAU I

Exports/Exportations

Tung oil Ex 422.9/Huile d'abrasin Ex 422.9

		Quantity: MT/ Quantité: TM	
	1970	1971	1972
<u>World/Monde</u>	40,759	58,699	59,803
<u>Africa/Afrique</u>	2,094	1,195	600
Madagascar	955	337	100 F
Malawi	1,139	858	500 F
<u>N.C. America/Amérique du Nord et Amérique centrale</u>	916	885	536
United States/Etats-Unis	499	586	335
United States - re-exports/Etats-Unis - réexportations	417	299	361
<u>South America/Amérique du Sud</u>	25,033	36,720	44,400
Argentina/Argentine	14,078	18,986	22,800 *
Brazil/Brésil	886	201	500 F
Paraguay	10,069	17,533	21,100 *
<u>Asia/Asie</u>	11,632	19,306	13,580
China/Chine	11,515 F	19,130 F	13,400 F
Hong Kong/Hong-kong	55	80	80 F
Singapore/Singapour	38	96	100 F
Thailand/Thaïlande	24		
<u>Europe</u>	209	275	461
EEC(9)/CEE(9)	209	275	461
Sweden/Suède	-	7	-

Source: FAO Trade Yearbook, 1972/FAO, Annuaire du commerce, 1972

TABLE 2/TABLEAU 2

BTN/NDB ex 12.01 Tung and Babassu nuts, tobacco and oiticica seed/ Noix d'abrasin et de babassu et graines de tabac et d'oiticica

	EEC/ CEE	Canada	Australia/ Australie	New Zealand/ Nouvelle-Zélande	Austria/ Autriche	Norway/ Norvège	Sweden/ Suède	Switzerland/ Suisse	Finland/ Finlande	Japan/ Japon	United States/ Etats-Unis
Duty rates/ Taux de droits											
- MFN/NPF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SwF 0.001/kg	0	0	0
GSP/SGP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2/ 0	-	-
Non-tariff measures/ Mesures non tarifaires								1/ V	V-Fmk 0.45/kg; DL		

DTN/NDB ex 15.07 - Tung oil, babassu oil, tobacco seed oil and oiticica oil/  
Huile d'abrasin, huile de babassu et huile de graines de tabac et huile d'oiticica

a. Tung oil/  
Huile d'abrasin

b. Babassu oil/  
Huile de babassu

c. Tobacco seed oil/  
Huile de graines de tabac

d. Oiticica oil/  
Huile d'oiticica

I. Crude/  
Brute

II. Other than crude/  
Non brute

	EEC/ CEE	Canada	Australia/ Australie	New Zealand/ Nouvelle-Zélande	Austria/ Autriche	Norway/ Norvège	Sweden/ Suède	Switzerland/ Suisse	Finland/ Finlande	Japan/ Japon	United States/ Etats-Unis
Duty rates/Taux de droits											
- MFN/NPF	a.d.3% (A-0); b.c.2/	a.d.0; b.c. I.10% II. 17.5%	a,b,d,0 c-\$A 93.50/ tonne	0; 17.5% <sup>1/</sup> (B-12.5%)	a-0; b. d- 0 2/; 15% 15.5% <sup>2/</sup>	a.d-0; b.c- NKr 0.16/ kg	a.c.d-0 b. I-0 -II-15%	I.-SwF 0.10/kg; II. b-SwF 0.30/ kg; a.c.d-SwF 0.12/ kg; 3/-SwF 0.01/kg	a.d-0; b.c-10%; 16% <sup>4/</sup>	a.d-0; b.c. -I V20/kg 17/kg <sup>7/</sup> ; - II - 28/kg 23/kg <sup>8/</sup>	a.b-0; c.d-5%
GSP/SGP	a.d.1% b - 2/	-	-	-	-	c.0	b.II-0	-	-	-	-
Non-tariff measures/ Mesures non tarifaires	Fr-S- P 0.175/kg	-	-	R 4/	-	-	b.c- 1/	b - V <sup>1/</sup>	DL; b.c. V-Fmk 1.61/kg <sup>1/</sup>	-	-

<sup>1/</sup> For food uses/Pour usages alimentaires

<sup>2/</sup> Import tax reduced to zero for oiticica seeds for feeding purposes under the GSP/Taxe nulle dans le cadre du SGP pour les graines d'oiticica destinées à l'alimentation des animaux

<sup>3/</sup> For technical or industrial use other than for the manufacture of foodstuffs/Pour usages techniques ou industriels autres que la fabrication de produits alimentaires

Crude/Brute  
Other/Autres

For other uses/Pour d'autres usages

Crude/Brute ) Solid, other and fluid/Concrète, autre et fluide

Other/Autres )

Solid in containers of 1 kg or less/Concrète, en contenants d'un kg ou moins

<sup>4/</sup> In containers of less than 1 gallon/En contenants de moins d'un gallon

<sup>5/</sup> Unfit for human consumption or rendered so under customs surveillance/Impropres à la consommation ou dénaturées sous contrôle douanier

<sup>6/</sup> In packages not containing more than 5 kg/En emballages ne contenant pas plus de 5 kg

<sup>7/</sup> A variable non-discriminatory fee is applied to oils and fats from domestically grown seeds as well as from imported products/Un prélèvement variable non discriminatoire est appliqué aux huiles et aux graisses extraites des graines de production nationale et de produits importés.

<sup>8/</sup> For technical use/Pour usages techniques

MFN/NPF  
b-5% (A-0); c-0  
b-8% (A-0); c-0

GSP/SGP  
b-2.5%  
-

10% (A-0)  
15% (A-0)  
20% (A-0)

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-  
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