# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Multilateral Trade Negotiations Group "Sector Approach"

### INFORMATION ON ORES AND METALS

### General Note

- 1. At the last meeting of the Group "Sector Approach" on 7-9 April, the majority of the Group agreed that the consideration of the possibilities offered by the sector approach could be advanced through an analysis and discussion of conditions prevailing in a specific sector or area of trade. It was decided that the secretariat should assemble data on trade in ones and metals, on tariffs and non-tariff barriers affecting these trade flows and, where possible, on the production and consumption of the commodities in question. The data should be collected according to the definitions of the ones and metals categories of the Tariff Study (with the inclusion of alumina), on the understanding that these definitions did not imply a commitment by any delegation as to the way in which these items would be dealt with, or sectors eventually defined, in the negotiations. It was also understood that delegations might suggest other sectors for study as the work of the Group progressed further (MTN/SEC/1, paragraph 10).
- 2. In view of the time allowed for the compilation of the data, not all the products classified in category 08 of the Tariff Study are reported in detail in this paper. Only the summary trade table in Part I includes all ores, metals, and metal manufactures (including alumina), whereas in the subsequent parts of the paper only the following ores, metals and semi-manufactures thereof are shown: iron and steel, copper, nickel, aluminium, magnesium, lead, sinc and tin. 1
- 3. In preparing this information, the secretariat had to rely as much as possible on statistical data already published by the several metal trade associations and study groups, on the documentation collected for the Tariff Study, and on data available from national sources in forms from which the information sought could easily be extracted. Since the various statistical publications are established for different purposes, the definitions of the data reported are not always comparable and some of them appeared to be incomplete for the purpose at hand. Adjustments of such series,

For precise definitions of category 08 and of the sub-categories of ores and metals as defined for the purpose of the Tariff Study, see Annex I.

and research for additional data, were carried out to the extent possible, but a systematic reconciliation could not be undertaken within the time allowed. The paragraphs below give the definitions of the series shown and indicate the major discrepancies which could be identified.

- 4. Supplementary data on the products reported, or with respect to other ores, metals and metal products could be provided at a later stage if the Group so desires. It must be emphasized that the type of data selected, the periods reported, the reference dates or definitions adopted in this paper do not reflect the negotiating position of any participating country; nor is any claim made that this is the best or only possible way of presenting statistical and other information on trade in ores, metals and metal products.
- 5. In the interest of easy handling, the general information is reported in the first part of the document (Iddenda 1 to 3), while the data for each of the eight metals are presented in separate volumes (Addenda 4-11). The table of contents attached hereto indicates the lay-out of the paper.
- 6. The first part contains information on trends since 1963 in world production, trade and prices of metals reported individually in the following parts of the document, trade data concerning the ores and metals as a whole (Add.1 to this document) and information on tariff and non-tariff measures applicable to trade in the eight metals (Add. 2 and 3). This part is followed by separate sections for each of the eight metals. In each case a series of tables first identifies the major trading countries, indicates the importance of the metal in the countries production and trade, and shows the trend in production and net trade of the major exporting and importing countries. Total imports and exports of the principal countries in one or two recent years are reported in an additional table. A second series of tables indicates mutual trade among the tariff study countries, identifies the other major suppliers and shows the importance of m.f.n., GSP and other preferential trade flows of the countries covered in the tariff study. Both in the general part covering all the ores, and metal products and in the parts reporting the individual metals, the major trade flows are further broken down according to the level of m.f.n. duties facing this trade.
- 7. The reader should keep in mind that the definitions of the eight ores and metals, and even of the three stages of processing, differ between the various sources used. The specialized metal bulletins publish production and trade statistics (in volume terms) on a comparable basis. The definitions adopted in them differ, however, from those agreed by the Technical Group on the Tariff Study. Adjustment of production data to the latter definitiors has not been possible; changes in the definitions of the sub-categories distinguished in the Tariff Study, on the other hand, would have modified the agreed structure of this documentation, and have therefore not been envisaged. Consequently, the first series of tables (Table I.l and Tables 1 to 4 for each metal) which reports production and trade in volume terms, is based on the specialized bulletins,

whereas the tariff and trade data (Table I.3, I.4 and Tables 6 and 7 for each metal) are based on the Tariff Study documentation. In the specialized metal bulletins, ores and concentrates usually include mattes (for copper and nickel) but in general do not take account of ash and residues; unwrought metals in general exclude alloys; the definition of semi-manufactures also appears to be different from that used in the Tariff Study; trade in scrap and waste metal is not reported at all. In the Tariff Study documentation, iron ores and concentrates include scrap and waste; non-ferrous metal ores include ash and residues; unwrought non-ferrous metals include scrap and unwrought metal alloys.

- 8. The import statistics of the Tariff Study are only recorded in value, whereas production and trade in the specialized metal bulletins are reported in quantities. An additional table (Table 5 for each metal), based on current trade returns, attempts a reconciliation of the two in showing trade in both quantities and in values. In this table ores exclude ash and residues, unwrought metal includes alloys, but excludes scrap, and metal products correspond, except for minor discrepancies, to the coverage of the Tariff Study.
- 9. For the sake of comparability, all quantities of ores and concentrates are shown in metal content. The metal content figures were either taken directly from the specialized metal bulletins, or estimated from gross weight figures by the secretariat on the basis of available information. In certain cases, a uniform conversion factor was used for the whole period, or the factor applicable to output was also used for exports; in a few cases a single average factor was used in the absence of separate figures for ores, concentrates or mattes. For imports, separate conversion was carried out by origin to the extent possible. It is obvious that such procedure may introduce distortions of the data. As a result, no accuracy can be claimed for the quantity figures for ores and concentrates; what can be claimed is that the converted data are, nonetheless, more meaningful for the present purpose than gross weight data. Conversions made by the secretariat are identified in each table and the conversion factor used is indicated.
- 10. The m.f.n., GSP and other preferential trade distinguished for each metal in tables 6 and 7 are based on the definitions adopted for the Tariff Study. Compared with the summary tables published in 1974 certain differences occur: the whole of BTN heading 28.20 was included in the total and in the aluminium. Data on GSP were brought up to date. The definition of the other preferential trade was revised in order to reflect the present situation; this revision could, however, not be fully completed since detailed regulations for the administration of the Lomé Convention has not yet been published. The subcategory 08.01, ores and metal waste, was sub-divided into eight groups corresponding to the individual metal ores distinguished. This adjustment is based on the detailed tariff study files and on national trade statistics. For a few countries full breakdown by kind of ore could not be attained, the

relevant statistics not being published in sufficient detail. For ores and concentrates (BTN heading 26.01) satisfactory data could in general be compiled; for ash and residues (BTN 26.03) such breakdown was possible only in a few cases.

- 11. Statistics for the European Communities refer to the nine member countries; trade figures exclude mutual trade among the nine. Except for the tariff study data, the EC totals were obtained by summing up figures for individual countries. The figures thus arrived at may slightly understate the actual totals since miner producing or trading countries are not systematically reported in the sources used. Moreover, because of differences in the system of trade and the definitions of country or origin and destination applicable in the mamber States of the European Communities, the net trade calculated from total exports and imports (Table 4 for each metal) is not always identical with the difference between the export and import total excluding intra-EC trade, as reported in Table 5 (for each metal). The import data based on the EC tariff study file are provisional and subject to revision by the EC authorities.
- 12. World production and trade figures in Table I.1 generally cover all the major countries. The export figures in this table include intra-EC trade since adjustment could not be carried out for the whole period on the basis of the data available for earlier years. The percentages in Table 1 for each metal, however, are based on adjusted world totals excluding shipments inside the EC.
- 13. With respect to duties reported in the first part of the paper for all eight metals, it was the intention of the secretariat to rely on information from the Tariff Rate Information File which countries participating in the negotiations undertook to submit. This could not be done, however, since only a few submissions have been received so far. For most developed countries the information was therefore extracted from the Tariff Study documentation; for the other countries, other sources available in the secretariat were used. While the data compiled from the Tariff Study documentation refer to post-Kennedy duties (generally enforced as of 1 January 1973), data referring to other countries could not be collected on a comparable basis. In particular, it could not be established whether all the rates reported are being applied at present.
- 14. The list of non-tariff measures shown in Add.3 to this document is based on the information available to the Joint Working Group and covers only those measures which were officially notified to the secretariat. The list is presented in two parts, the first referring to measures which are, in principle, applicable across-the-board to all products; the second part showing the measures of particular application to products on the metal sector. It could not be established whether all the measures reported in the first part are relevant for the metal sector.
- 15. Detailed definitions and sources are indicated at the end of each table.

# ANNEX I/ANNEXE I

# Definitions of Category O8 Ores and Metals Adopted for the Purpose of the Tariff Studya/ Définitions des minerais et métaux de la catégorie O8 adoptées aux fins de l'Etude tarifairea/

08.00	Ores and metals/Minerals et métaux		
08.01	Ores and metal waste/Minerais	26.01;26.03; 73.03 28.20 <sup>8</sup>	281-282;283 excl. 283.1(2) and/et 283.2(2); 284.0(1); 285.0(1); 286; 513.6(5) and/et (6)
08.00	Ores and metals (continued/suite)		
08.02	Iron and steel/Fer et acier		
08.02.01	Unworked/Fer et acier brut	73.01;73.04- 07	671 excl. 671.4-5; 672.1; 672.3(1); 672.5(1)
08.02.02	Ferro-alloys/Ferro-alliages	73.02	671.4-5
08.02.03	Semi-manufactured products/Demi- produits	73.08-18	672 excl. 672.1; 672.3(1) and/et 672.5(1); 673-677; 678.1-3
08.03	Non-ferrous metals/Métaux non-ferreux		
08.03.01	Unwrought/Métaux non-ferreux bruts		•
08.03.01.01	Copper/Culvre brut	74.01-02	283.1(2); 284.0(2); 682.1
08.03.01.02	Nickel/Nickel brut	75.01	283.2(2); 284.0(3) 683.1
08.03.01.03	Aluminium/Aluminium brut	76.01	284.0(4); 684.1
08.03.01.04	Magnesium/Magnésium brut	77.01	284.0(5); 689.3(1)
08.03.01.05	Lead/Plomb brut	78.01	284.0(6); 685.1
08.03.01.06	Zinc/Zinc brut	79.01	284.0(7); 686.1
08.03.01.07	Tin/Etain brut	80.01	284.0(9); 687.1

/Cuivre ouvré /Nickel ouvré	74.03.08	/do o
Mickel ouvré		682.2
A TATOMONT OMATO	75.02-05	683.2
ium/Aluminium ouvré	76.02-07	684.2
lomb ouvré	78.02-05	685.2
inc ouvré	79.02-04	284.0(8); 686.2
ain ouvré	80.02-05	687.2
ctured)/Autres métaux brut	is 77.02; 77.04; 81.01-04	688; 689.3 excl. 689.3(1); 689.4; 689.5
ils	82.01-07	695
rticles de ccutellerie	82.09-15	696
	73.38;74.17- 18;76.15; 82.08; 83.06 83.12;	697.1(2); 697.2; 697.9 excl. 697.9(1); 719.4(1); 812.3
	73.22-24; 74.09; 76.09-11	692
tres articles en métal	73.19-21;	678.4-5; 679
	73.39-40; 74.10-16; 74.19; 75.06; 76.08; 76.12- 14; 76.16; 77.03; 78.06; 79.05-06; 80.06;83.01-0 83.07-11;	691; 693; 694; 697.9(1); 698; 812.4(2)
	Plomb ouvré Linc ouvré Lain ouvré (unworked or semi-	Plomb ouvré Zinc ouvré

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Including alumina which was classified in the Tariff Study in category 10, Chemicals./
Y compris l'alumine, qui était classée dans l'Etude tarifaire dans la catégorie 10,
Produits chimiques.

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