

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/NTM/W/20/Add.3

3 October 1975

Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Original: French

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"

Sub-Group "Customs Matters"

## CUSTOMS VALUATION

### Addendum

1. At its meeting in May 1975, the Sub-Group "Customs Matters" agreed "that participants should transmit to the GATT secretariat in writing by 15 September 1975 specific suggestions, accompanied by notes explaining the objectives of these suggestions, for the elements that they wished to have included in any new set of international rules on customs valuation to be adopted in the context of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations" (MTN/NTM/4, paragraph 6 and GATT/LIN/1189).
2. A communication from Romania has been received and is reproduced herunder.
3. Delegations who have not yet submitted their comments are invited to do so without delay.

In the opinion of the Romanian authorities the solutions to the restrictive tariff practice problems which will be agreed should not involve in the case of developing countries any obligations inconsistent with their economic development needs and should include provisions regarding supply of technical assistance to such countries, so that they can adjust themselves to the requirements of new international rules in this field.

As regards customs valuation, the general solution through international rules must consist in all countries accepting the principles relating to customs valuation written into Article VII of the General Agreement and the interpretative note to this Article drawn up by GATT in 1971.

In order to achieve maximum simplification in the field of documentary import requirements the Sub-Group could adopt as a basis for negotiation the ECE/UN recommendations concerning the aligned commercial invoice.

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The Romanian party agrees to the adoption of an interpretative note ad Article VII of the General Agreement which could lead to the elimination of consular formalities for imports of goods, maintained by many countries. As regards developing countries, such formalities should be eliminated gradually to the extent that the countries concerned can relinquish the proceeds of such formalities and obtain from developed countries concessions commensurate with their economic interests.