

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## REPORT ON CONSULTATIONS HELD UNDER THE PROCEDURES OF MTN/AG/4

### ROMANIA

At its meeting on 20 December 1976, Group "Agriculture" agreed that delegations having participated in consultations should endeavour, in advance of the next meeting, to send to the secretariat summary notes with respect to the consultations in which they had participated. The secretariat would assemble and distribute the summaries in order to facilitate a decision concerning the further work of the Group.

In accordance with this procedure, Romania has sent the secretariat the following note.

#### Note on Consultations held under the Procedures of MTN/AG/4

1. In accordance with the procedure of Group "Agriculture" described in document MTN/W/24 concerning agricultural products other than those covered by the product sub-groups of Group "Agriculture", the delegation of Romania has held bilateral consultations with Japan, the EEC and its member States, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Switzerland\*, the United States, Australia, Austria\* and Canada. The consultations dealt with the tariff and non-tariff measures applied to imports of the contracting parties mentioned, as notified by the Romanian side in document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.12 of 30 September 1976.

2. In the course of the consultations, the Romanian delegation stressed inter alia, Romania's interest in: improvement of the GSP and inclusion in that system of additional agricultural products exported by Romania; the granting, in other cases, of tariff reductions on an MFN basis; the elimination of permanent or seasonal quantitative restrictions; the definition of a phytosanitary régime acceptable to all the countries concerned; the

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\* See also the notes submitted jointly with these countries.

negotiation of a multilateral régime to guarantee, in periods of surplus supply, remunerative prices for the exports of developing countries and, in general, the adoption of more favourable, differentiated treatment for exports of those countries.

The consultations made it possible to better identify, with the partners in the consultations, the obstacles affecting exports of the agricultural products notified by the Romanian side and to obtain more specific information concerning those obstacles. They also made it possible to provide the partners with information on the difficulties encountered in their markets by the Romanian agricultural products notified and on the measures that it would be desirable to take in the tariff and non-tariff fields to facilitate Romanian exports in conformity with the Tokyo Declaration and in particular with provisions relating to the participation of developing countries in negotiations.

3. During the consultation with the EEC and its member States, the aspects mentioned in notification MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5/Suppl.1 of 24 September 1976 were also discussed.

As regards the assertions concerning inadequacy of certain statistical data and information relating to Romania's production, consumption and trade and its import procedures, the Romanian delegation drew attention to the existence both of documentation concerning its import mechanisms and of various statistical sources of information concerning the agricultural sector in Romania, including the documentation submitted in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations. In view of the rather general character of the EEC notification, which did not specifically identify the products and difficulties in question, the Romanian delegation asked for details.

At the same time, the Romanian delegation drew attention to the existing uncertainty as to conditions of access of Romanian agricultural products to the markets of countries members of the EEC, owing both to unforeseeable trade-policy measures adopted by the EEC and to the effects of agreements and arrangements entered into by the EEC with other countries.

4. The Romanian side considers that it is now possible to go beyond the phase of consultations covered by the procedure indicated in document MTN/W/24 and enter the stage of actual negotiations for the possible definition of concrete measures in the light of the Tokyo Declaration's objectives.