

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

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Group "Agriculture"

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

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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, Czechoslovakia has sent the secretariat the following note.

Summary Note by Czechoslovakia on Consultations held with the
European Economic Community Concerning Agricultural Notification
made by the EEC to Czechoslovakia

Consultations were held on 25 November 1976 at Geneva between the delegations of Czechoslovakia and of the European Economic Community and the member States on the subject of the notification sent by the EEC delegation to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.

In this notification the EEC delegation did not consider adequate the information available on Czechoslovak agricultural production, consumption and trade, the information on certain agreements concluded by Czechoslovakia and on measures which in view of the EEC might influence the Czechoslovak agricultural exports.

In the course of the consultations the Czechoslovak delegation indicated inter alia that Czechoslovakia as a net importer of agricultural products had contributed to the development of world agricultural exports as well as of the Czechoslovak agricultural trade with EEC and its member States and that Czechoslovak import policy did not pursue any goal of self-sufficiency. This delegation further stated that information and statistics concerning Czechoslovak production, consumption as well as trade in the field of agriculture which were published and available in Czechoslovakia and the quality, volume and break-up of these statistics and information secure adequate basis for orientation of foreign suppliers and for their decision making with regard to developing agricultural trade with Czechoslovakia as well as for making forecast concerning the participation of Czechoslovakia in the world market. In this connexion the Czechoslovak delegation submitted detailed data with regard to the existence in Czechoslovakia of different official, semi-official and specialized sources of information, statistics and documentation.

The Czechoslovak delegation indicated further that adequate information on agreements concluded by Czechoslovakia and their eventual bearing on the volume and composition of agricultural trade with individual countries was contained inter alia in Czechoslovak foreign trade statistics, statistical yearbooks and in respective foreign trade periodicals and publications. The Czechoslovak delegation stated also that purchase of agricultural products were made from all available sources of supply on the basis of commercial considerations and with regard to the Czechoslovak external financial position. This delegation also indicated that no measures affecting agricultural exports to EEC countries were applied by Czechoslovakia.

The exchange of views was regarded as useful for the further work of Group "Agriculture".