

RESTRICTED

MTN/AG/W/44

11 July 1978

Special Distribution

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Original: English

Group "Agriculture"

APPLICABILITY OF THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE TO AGRICULTURE

Proposal by New Zealand

In accordance with the invitation by Group "Agriculture" to delegations to submit specific proposals or suggestions for any modifications or amendments to the Draft Code of Conduct for Preventing Technical Barriers to Trade that might be necessary to make the Code applicable to agricultural products (MTN/AG/8), the New Zealand delegation has made the following comment and suggested the following amendments to the Code as contained in MTN/NTM/W/150:

- (1) New Zealand attaches considerable importance to having processes and production methods brought within the ambit of the Code.
- (2) IIA2(a) Add at the end "the products of the territory of any adherent imported into the territory of any other adherent shall be accorded treatment no less favourable than that accorded to like products of national origin in respect of all technical regulations" (this language is drawn from GATT Article III:4).
- (3) IIA2(e) Modify as suggested in document MTN/NTM/W/120. Of the three suggested modifications New Zealand prefers the United States version.
- (4) IIA2(h) In line one after "above" add "and in circumstances where there is little or no trade impact".
- (5) IIB5(b) In line one after "shall" add "where practical".
At the end (line eight) add "except that in circumstances where rapid change in technology and practice make it impractical to notify and publish test methods, adherents shall be prepared to disclose current testing requirements when requested by other countries".