

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/ME/W/24/Rev.2  
16 February 1978

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## Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Agriculture"  
Sub-Group on Meat

### ARRANGEMENT REGARDING /BOVINE/ MEAT

#### WORKING HYPOTHESIS

1. At the meeting of 1 and 2 February 1978 the secretariat was invited to prepare, to the extent possible and in the light of the discussions at that meeting, a revised text of MTN/ME/W/24/Rev.1 (MTN/ME/7, paragraph 6).
2. The possibility of additional proposals in the meantime and in writing was noted (MTN/ME/7, paragraph 5).

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/ARRANGEMENT REGARDING MEAT

/PREAMBLE

Mindful of the serious disturbances in international trade in bovine meat and live animals;

Recognizing the importance of production and trade in bovine meat and live animals for the economies of many countries, notably for a number of developing countries;

Convinced that increased co-operation and concerted action, within a multilateral framework, will contribute to the achievement of greater liberalization, stability and expansion in international trade in meat and live animals;

Determined to respect the principles and objectives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

Determined as well, in carrying out the aims of this Arrangement to implement the principles and objectives agreed upon in the Tokyo Declaration of Ministers, dated 14 September 1973 concerning the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, in particular as concerns special and more favourable treatment for developing countries./

The participants to the present Arrangement have, through their representatives, agreed as follows:

PART ONE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article I - Objectives

1. This Arrangement shall aim to achieve a regular and orderly expansion and growth of world consumption and trade in bovine meat and live animals in the interests of both importers and exporters and under conditions as stable as possible. This shall be achieved by the ever greater liberalization of barriers to trade in bovine meat and live animals, and through greater co-operation among importers and exporters, assuring a reasonable co-ordination on the international level of information concerning in particular production, consumption, trade, and national policies in these products and permitting an improvement in the necessary interventions and adjustments in the market, as well as an internationalization of world meat markets to the benefit of both consumer and producer, importer and exporter.

2. Within the context of this Arrangement, one of the principal aims shall be to assure additional benefits for the international trade of developing countries as concerns bovine meat and live animals in order to further the economic and social development of these countries as well as provide scope for a greater share in world meat trade, in accordance with the principles and objectives expressed in the Tokyo Declaration.<sup>7</sup>

Article II - Product Coverage

1. This Arrangement applies to /bovine/ meat. For the purpose of this Arrangement, the term /“bovine”/ “meat” is considered to include:

	<u>CCCN</u>
(a) Live bovine animals	01.02
(b) Meat <u>/and edible offals/</u> of bovine animals, fresh, chilled or frozen	ex 02.06
(c) Meat <u>/and edible offals/</u> of bovine animals, salted, in brine, dried or smoked	ex 02.06
<u>/</u> (d) Other prepared or preserved meat <u>/or offal/</u> of bovine animals	ex 16.02 <sup>7</sup>

and any other product that may be added /by the Council as established under the terms of Article VII of this Arrangement, / in order to accomplish the objectives and provisions of this Arrangement.

Article III - Information and Market Monitoring

1. All participants agree to provide regularly and promptly to the Meat Council, the information which will permit the Meat Council to assess the overall situation of the world market for meat and the situation of the world market for each specific meat.
2. The information that the participants undertake to provide under the terms of paragraph 1 of this Article, according to the modalities that the Meat Council shall establish, will include detailed data on past performance as well as trends and prospects of production, consumption, exports, imports, prices and stocks of the products referred to in Article II and any other information deemed necessary by the Meat Council. Participants shall also provide information about their national policies regarding meat and changes and/or amendments thereto, for production, consumption, imports/exports, stocks/and the carrying out of bilateral and plurilateral commitments/ and they shall use all reasonable means whenever possible to notify their intentions in this matter when these would affect the international trade of meat.
3. The secretariat of the Arrangement shall monitor variations in the level of certain market data, in particular stocks, slaughterings and prices, so as to permit early detection of the symptoms of any serious imbalance in the supply and demand situation. The secretariat shall keep the Meat Council apprised of significant developments on world markets.

Article IV - Co-operation

1. The Meat Council shall meet in order to:
  - (a) evaluate the world supply and demand situation on the basis of an interpretative analysis of the present situation and of probable developments drawn up by the secretariat of the Arrangement, on the basis of documentation provided in conformity with Article III of the present Arrangement, and of any other information available to the secretariat;
  - (b) proceed to a comprehensive examination of the functioning of the present Arrangement.
2. If after evaluation of the world supply and demand situation referred to in paragraph 1(a) of this Article, or after examination of information pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article III, the Council finds that a serious imbalance or a threat thereof is developing in the international meat market, the Council will proceed to the identification of measures which /could be implemented by the participants in order to/ /if implemented by the participants could/ remedy the situation.
3. Measures which could be taken in terms of paragraph 2 of this Article, could include unilateral, bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral actions, having an impact on supply and demand in world markets. /Such measures could also include adjustments of national policies./ /Furthermore the measures which could be implemented could include actions on production inputs in the meat sector./
4. When considering the suggested measures pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article, due consideration shall be given to special and more favourable treatment to developing countries, where this is feasible and appropriate.
5. Nothing in the present Arrangement shall prejudice the rights and obligations of the participants under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

/Article V - Other General Provisions

1. Health and sanitary measures

Pro Memoria

2. Safeguards

Pro Memoria

/3. Negotiation/code of conduct/

Pro Memoria

4. /Export/ Subsidies

Pro Memoria

/5. Dispute settlement/ /



PART TWO

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

Article VI

/Joint disciplines

- (a) The provisions of this Article are applicable to the products listed in Article II.
- (b) Each participant undertakes to take the steps necessary to adjust
  - its import policy in all the necessary elements so that imports are carried out under as regular and orderly conditions as possible;
  - its export policy so that exports are carried out as regularly and in as orderly a manner as possible.
- (c) The bilateral or plurilateral commitments, which specify the nature of the commitments entered into, are set forth in the Annex to the present Arrangement.]

Article VI bis

/Access commitments /Concessions/

- (a) The provisions of this Article are applicable to the products listed in Article II.
- (b) The obligations contracted by the participants in terms of this Article, are set forth in the Annex to the present Arrangement.]

PART THREE

Article VII - Administration of the Arrangement

1. Meat Council

A Meat Council shall be established within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The Council shall comprise representatives of all participants to the Arrangement and shall carry out all the functions which are necessary to implement the provisions of the Arrangement. The Council shall be serviced by the secretariat of the Arrangement.

2. Regular and special meetings

The Council shall normally meet at least twice a year. However, the chairman may call a special meeting of the Council either on his own initiative, or at the request of a participant to the Arrangement in view of the information communicated in terms of Article III.

PART FOUR

Article VIII - Final Provisions

Note: This Article should include the following headings:

1. Entry into force
2. Duration

This Arrangement shall remain in force for [ ] years. However the bilateral or plurilateral commitments under the terms of Article VI, paragraph (c) and the access commitments /concessions/ under the terms of Article VI bis, paragraph (b) are subject, as concerns the duration, to the provisions of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

3. /Amendments/ /Revision/

- /4. Relationship between the Arrangement and the Annex

The Annex is considered to form an integral part of the present Arrangement./

5. Acceptance
6. Withdrawal

/ANNEX

Results of bilateral or plurilateral negotiations as taken  
from the schedules annexed to the /Geneva/ (...) Protocol  
and annexed to the present Arrangement//