

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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Negotiating Group on Tropical Products

TROPICAL PRODUCTS: BACKGROUND MATERIAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Natural Rubber and Tropical Wood

Draft Note by the Secretariat

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	2
SECTION I: Natural rubber and rubber products	3
A. Product information	3
B. The commercial policy situation	4
C. Trade flows and consumption	14
SECTION II: Tropical wood and wood products	18
A. Product information	18
B. The commercial policy situation	23
C. Trade flows	31
SECTION III: Activities of international organizations	43
ANNEX: ¹ Tariff and trade flow data at the tariff line level	

¹To be issued as Add.1. to this document.

Introduction

1. At the first meeting of the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products held on 26 February 1987, there was a general agreement that the work in the initial phase should start on the basis of the seven product groups selected for the purpose of the consultations on tropical products held in the Committee on Trade and Development in 1982-84, in the understanding that this would not constitute a definition of tropical products nor an exhaustive listing and that other products might be included as negotiations proceed. As a first step in compiling background material for negotiations, the Group agreed that the secretariat should be invited to update and revise the background documentation prepared for the 1982-84 consultations including, as appropriate, data on the new Harmonized System of tariffs, so as to provide the Group with a summary of current trade flows and the tariff and non-tariff measures relating to the seven individual product groups covered by the consultations.

2. This document provides background material for negotiations with respect to one of the seven product groups covered by the 1982-84 consultations - natural rubber and tropical wood. This document covers the eleven developed country markets as in the background documentation prepared for the consultations. As far as this product group is concerned, any additional information that the Group might wish to have included as background material will be circulated as addenda to this document.

3. The first two sections of this document cover natural rubber and tropical wood, respectively. Section III documents the activities of international organizations relevant to these two product sub-groups. Each of the first two sections includes product information and, under the heading "the commercial policy situation", tables which show tariff rates (MFN and GSP) according to the new Harmonized System classifications, an overview of the tariff situation and information on non-tariff measures. Each of the first two sections also provides data on trade flows and consumption.

4. With respect to the eleven markets referred to above, the Annex to this document provides tariff and trade flow data extracted from the 1984 Tariff Study files. These data are presented according to tariff classifications used before the adoption of the Harmonized System. With respect to pre-HS tariff items covered by the Annex, the secretariat has added corresponding new HS-based tariff item numbers and tariff rates on a provisional basis. It is expected that these data will help identify broadly, if not precisely, major suppliers and the amount of trade involved with respect to the new HS-based tariff items.¹ The data provided for negotiations for the adoption of the Harmonized System might also be useful in certain cases.

SECTION I: Natural rubber and rubber products

A. Product information

5. Virtually all of the commercially important types of natural rubber (hevea, balata, gutta percha and chicle) are grown in the tropical zone. While there are certain products which are most frequently made from either natural or synthetic rubbers, many rubber items are made from several types of rubber combined, which may have been co-polymerized, compounded, laminated or otherwise associated with one another and with other fillers, extenders, colouring agents and/or re-enforcement materials such as textile or metal-threads or fabrics.

¹ A number of participants in the Uruguay Round, including developed countries, will adopt new tariff schedules based on the Harmonized System effective 1 January 1988. The United States and Canada will adopt an internationally standardized tariff nomenclature for the first time. However, it may be noted that import data according to HS-based tariff items will not be available before 1989 or 1990. Thus, there is no other choice but to use the latest available import data for 1984, which are presented in the Annex according to pre-HS tariff classifications, i.e. CCCN, TSUS or CTS.

6. Rubber and most rubber products¹ fall within CCCN/HS Chapter 40. Natural and synthetic rubbers are distinguishable only at the level of raw material. At the level of semi-manufactured and finished rubber products, no distinction is made between those of natural and synthetic rubbers under such international nomenclatures as CCCN and HS. However, in certain national tariff schedules (e.g. those of the United States and Japan) certain semi-manufactured natural rubber products sometimes enjoy lower tariff treatment than for corresponding synthetic rubber products.

B. The commercial policy situation

(a) Tariffs

7. Tables 1 to 5 show the tariff rates (MFN and GSP) of eleven developed country markets with respect to natural rubber, unvulcanized rubber products, vulcanized rubber products, rubber tyres and tubes, and other rubber articles. The MFN rates indicated in these tables are new rates based on the Harmonized System which will take effect on 1 January 1988. The GSP rates should also be those which will take effect on 1 January 1988, but where this information is not available those in force in 1987 have provisionally been given. Tariff data in the tables are presented in a way to show the tariff escalation as clearly as possible. Tariff rates other than MFN and GSP rates are given in the Annex to this document.

¹Chapter 40 of the CCCN does not cover all "rubber articles". Rubber toys, bathing caps, rubber footwear and (hardened rubber) buttons, pipestems, etc., are, for instance, classifiable in other CCCN/HS Chapters.

Symbols used in the tables

* = MFN tariff reductions and GSP improvements after the 1982-84 consultations on tropical products (to the extent that information is available to the secretariat)

MFN rate

B = MFN rate fully bound
P = MFN rate partially bound
U = MFN rate not bound
A = MFN rate applied actually on a temporary basis or otherwise

Examples: (a) 0% B,) Two bound rates at zero and 10 per cent apply on 10% B) the HS item
(b) 10% B) MFN rate is bound at 10 per cent, but a rate of 8% A) 8 per cent is actually applied on the HS item.

GSP rate

blank space = no GSP treatment for MFN duty-free item
- = no GSP treatment for MFN dutiable item
(...%) = GSP rate whose application is subject to quantitative limitations (i.e. ceiling or quota)

- Notes:
1. Information on country limitations for the GSP application is given in footnotes.
 2. Tariff rates other than MFN and GSP rates are available in Add.1 to this document.
 3. "No GSP treatment" includes the cases where the GSP rate, though it remains on domestic legislation or regulation, no longer offers a preferential margin as a result of the reduction of the relevant MFN rate to or below the GSP rate.
 4. Unless otherwise qualified, a single GSP rate indicated against two or more MFN rates means that all indicated dutiable MFN rates have been covered by the GSP rate indicated.

Note: Four countries, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, grant developing countries MFN duty-free treatment or unlimited GSP duty-free treatment with the exception that "4011 rubber tyres" are excluded from the GSP scheme of Finland. These four countries are not included in the following tables for natural rubber. Date for these four countries will be made available to interested delegations on request.

Table 1Natural Rubber

United States, Japan, EEC and Austria - 0%B (all items)

H.S Code, ¹ No.	Harmonized commodity description		Canada	Australia	New Zealand
4001.10	Natural rubber latex	MFN	0%B	2%U	0%P
		GSP		0%	
4001.21	Smoked sheets of natural rubber	MFN	0%B	2%U	0%B
		GSP		0%	
4001.22	Technically specified natural rubber (TSNR)	MFN	0%B	2%U	0%B
		GSP		0%	
4001.29	Natural rubber, other	MFN	0%B, 10.3%B ²	2%U	0%U, ³ 17.5%B
		GSP	6.5% ²	0%	0%
4001.30	Balata, gutta-percha guayule, chicle and similar natural gums	MFN	0%B	0%B	0%P ⁴ 40%B
		GSP			30%

¹Corresponding CCCN numbers: 4001, 4005, 4006 and 4008²Sheets and strip other than crepe rubber sheets for footwear³Creped natural rubber and uncompounded natural rubber⁴Compounded natural gums

Unvulcanized Rubber Products

H.S. Code No.	Harmonized commodity description	United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus- tria	Aust- ralia	New- Zeal- and
4005.10 ¹	Compounded rubber MFN with carbon black or silica	GSP	0% ^B	10.3% ^B	4.9% ^B 3.9% ^A	2.5% ^B	.6% ^B	15% ^U
				6.5%	(0%)	0%	3%	10%
4005.20 ¹	Compounded rubber MFN solutions, other dispersions	GSP	0% ^B	10.3% ^B	4.9% ^B 0% ^A	2.5% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U
				6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	10%
4005.91 ¹	Compounded rubber MFN plates, sheets and strip	GSP	0% ^B	10.3% ^B	4.9% ^B 3.9% ^A	2.5% ^B	6.5% ^B	15% ^U
				6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.2%	10%
4005.99 ¹	Other compounded MFN rubber	GSP	0% ^B	10.3% ^B	0% ^B ³	0% ^B	6% ^B	15% ^U
				6.5%			3%	10%
4006.10 ²	"Camel-back" strips for retreading rubber tyres	MFN GSP	5.8% ^B	10.3% ^B	4.9% ^B 3.9% ^A	2.5% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U
			0%	6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	10%
4006.90 ²	Rods, tubes and profile shapes and articles (e.g. discs and rings)	MFN GSP	4.2% ^B ³ 5.3% ^B	10.3% ^B	4.9% ^B 3.9% ^A	2.5% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U
			0%	6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	10%
								30% ^U , 20%, 25%

¹ Corresponding CCCN numbers: 4001, 4002, 4005, 4006 and 4008

² Corresponding CCCN numbers: 4006, 4007, 4008, 4010 and 4014

³ Of natural rubber

Table 3
Vulcanized Rubber Products

H.S. Code No.	Harmonized commodity description		United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus-tria	Aust-ralia	New Zealand
4007.00	Rubber thread and cord	MFN	4.2% ¹ B	6.8% ² B, 10.3% ² B	4.9% ² B 3.9% ² A	6.2% ² B	0% ² B, 5% ² B	25%U	5%U
			GSP	0%	(0%) 6.5%	0%	2.5%	20%	0%
4008.11	Plates,sheets and strip of cellular rubber	MFN	4.2% ¹ B	10.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	5.8% ² B	7% ² B	25%U	20%U, 30% 40%U
			GSP	0%	6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	15%, 15%, 30%
4008.19	Rods and profile shapes of cellular rubber	MFN	4.2% ¹ B	10.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.4% ² B	7% ² B	25%U	40%U
			GSP	0%	6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4008.21	Plates,sheets and strip of non-cellular rubber	MFN	3.4% ² B	0% ² B, 10.3% ² B	4.9% ² B 3.9% ² A	4.9% ² B	7% ² B	20% ² B	20%U, 40%U
			GSP	--	6.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	15% 15%, 30%
4008.29	Rods and profile shapes of non-cellular rubber	MFN	5.8% ² B	10.8% ² B	4.9% ² B 3.9% ² A	4.4% ² B	7% ² B	25% ² B	40%U
			GSP	0%	7%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4009.10	Tubes,pipes and hoses - not reinforced or otherwise combined with other material ³	MFN	3.1% ² B	11.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.9% ² B	7% ² B	40% ² B 25%U	45%U
			GSP	0%	7.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4009.20	- Reinforced or otherwise combined only with metals	MFN	3.1% ² B	11.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.9%	7%	40% ² B 25%U	45%U
			GSP	0%	7.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4009.30	- Reinforced or otherwise combined only with textile materials ³	MFN	3.1% ² B	11.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.9% ² B	7% ² B	40% ² B 25%U	45%U
			GSP	0%	7.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4009.40	- Reinforced or otherwise combined with other materials ³	MFN	3.1% ² B	11.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.9% ² B	7% ² B	40% ² B 25%U	45%U
			GSP	0%	7.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%
4009.50	- With fittings	MFN	3.1% ² B	11.3% ² B	4.6% ² B	4.9% ² B	7% ² B	40% ² B 25%U	45%U, 55%U
			GSP	0%	7.5%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%

¹ Of natural rubber. 6.6%²B for products of synthetic rubber² Not covered³ Without fittings

Table 4
Rubber Tyres and Tubes

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description	United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus- tria	Fin- land	Aust- ralia	New Zeal- and
4011 4011.10	New pneumatic tyres: MFN - for motor cars	4% ^B	10.7% ^B	0% ^B	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	25% ^U	40% ^U 55% ^U ⁵
		GSP	0%	7%	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	20%	-
4011.20	- for buses or lorries	MFN	4% ^B	10.7% ^B	0% ^B	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	25% ^U
			GSP	0%	7%	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	20%
4011.40	- for motor cycles	MFN	4% ^B	10.7% ^B	0% ^B , 4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	0% ^U
			GSP	0%	7%	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	-
4011.50	- for bicycles	MFN	5% ^B	10.7% ^B	4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	27.5% ^B 0% ^U
			GSP	-	7% (0%)	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	-
4011.91	- having a "herring-bone or similar tread"	MFN	0% ^B , 4% ^B	0% ^B ¹ 10.2% ^B 10.7% ^B	0% ^B ³ , 4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	15% ^U
			GSP	0%	6.5% 7%	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	10%
4011.99	- other	MFN	0% ^B , 4% ^B	0% ^B ¹ 10.2% ^B 10.7% ^B 11.7% ^B	0% ^B ³ , 4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	15% ^U
			GSP	0%	6.5% 7% 7.5%	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	10%
4013 4013.10 (4011)	Inner tubes: - for motor cars	MFN	3.7% ^B	10.2% ^B	6.5% ^B 3.2% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	15% ^U
			GSP	0%	6.5% (0%)	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	10%
4013.20 (4011)	- for bicycles	MFN	15% ^B	10.2% ^B	4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	27.5% ^B 15% ^U
			GSP	-	6.5% (0%)	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	10%
4013.90 (4011)	- other	MFN	3.7% ^B	10.2% ^B ²	4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	5.8% ^B	20% ^B	25% ^B	15% ^U
			GSP	0%	6.5% (0%)	(0%) ⁴	10%	-	10%

¹Having a size of 3,600 X 51 or 4,000 X 57

²For aircraft

³With a width exceeding 10.16 cm

⁴GSP no applicable to Romania

⁵New pneumatic tyres, of a kind used in the assembly of motor vehicles as may be determined

Table 5
Other Rubber Articles

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description	United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus-tria	Aust-ralia	New Zealand
4014.10 (4012)	Sheath contraceptives MFN GSP	4.2% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	4.2% ^B (0%) 3.4% ^A	3% 0%	7% ^B 3.5%	25% ^U 20%	5% ^U 0%
4014.90 (4012)	Other hygienic or pharmaceutical articles MFN GSP	3.1% ^B , 4.2% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	4.2% ^B (0%) 3.4% ^A	3% 0%	7% ^B 3.5%	25% ^U 20%	0% ^B , 5% ^P , 20% ^U 35% ^U 0%, 25%
4015.11 (4013)	Surgical gloves MFN GSP	3.7% ^B 0%	25% ^B 16.5%	4.2% ^B (0%) 3.4% ^A	5.3% ^B 0%	7% ^B 3.5%	25% ^U 20%	47.5% or 8 ₧ pair +20% 27.5% or 8 ₧ pair
4015.19 (4013)	Other gloves MFN GSP	3.7% ^B / 14% ^B ex0% ^{1/}	25% ^B 16.5%	4.2% ^B (0%) 3.4% ^A	5.3% ^B 0%	7% ^B 3.5%	25% ^U 20%	as above as above
4015.90 (4013)	Other articles of apparel and clothing accessories MFN GSP	5% ^B -	22.5% 15%	4.2% ^B (0%) 3.4% ^A	6.2% ^B 0%	7% ^B 3.5%	22% ^U , 25% ^I , 60% ^U 0% ² , 20% ³ , 55%	40% ^U 35%
4016.10 (4014)	Other articles of cellular rubber MFN GSP	4.2% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	5.8% ^B (0%) 4.6% ^A	5.3% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	20% ^P , 40% ^U 20%, 30%
4016.91 (4014)	Floor coverings and mats of cellular rubber MFN GSP	5.3% ^B 0%	11.3% ^B 7.5%	3.4% ^B (0%) 0% ^A	4.4% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	20% ^U , 40% ^U 20%, 30%
4016.92 (4014)	Erasers MFN GSP	4.2% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	3.4% (0%)	4.4% 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	35% ^U 20%
4016.93 (4014)	Gaskets, washers and other seals MFN GSP	3.5% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	3.4% ^B (0%)	4.4% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5% ⁵	25% ^U 20%	40% ^U 30%
4016.94 (4014)	Boat and dock fenders MFN GSP	5.3% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 6.5%	3.4% ^B (0%)	4.4% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	40% ^U 30%
4016.95 (4014)	Other inflatable articles MFN GSP	4.2% ^B -	15% ^B , 10.2% ^B 6.5%	3.4% ^B (0%)	4.4% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	40% ^U 30%
4016.99 (4014)	Other articles of vulcanized rubber other than hard rubber of non-cellular rubber MFN GSP	3.4% ^B 6.5% ^B 5.3% ^B 8.5% ^B 4.2% ^B 0%	10.3% ^B 10.3% ^B 6.5%	3.4% ^B 0% ^A 4.4% ^B	4.4% ^B 0%	9% ^B 4.5%	25% ^U 20%	0-40% ^P ?
4017.00 (4015) (4016)	Hard rubber and articles MFN GSP	5.3% ^B 0%	0% ^B , 10.3% ^B 6.5%	4.2% ^B 3.4% ^A	0% ^B , 2.5% ^B , 3.2% ^B	6.5% ^B 3.25%	25% ^U 20%	0% ^U , 5% ^B , 20% ^B , 40% ^U ?

¹ Seamless gloves. ² Driving dress, etc. ³ Garments other than X-ray protection pilches. ⁴ Of a kind used for mother vehicles. Without a visible reinforcement of metal on the outside S 4.41/kg.B, GSP S 2.20/kg.

An overview of the tariff situation

8. In developed countries natural rubber is generally imported free of duty as an essential raw material. With regard to rubber products, MFN duties of industrialized countries have been significantly reduced as a result of past multilateral trade negotiations. Practically all products in CCCN Chapter 40 (with the exception of rubber tyres and tubes in certain cases) enjoyed the 50 per cent tariff reduction in the 1964-67 Kennedy Round and the tariff reduction according to a harmonization formula in the 1973-79 Tokyo Round. Further, the GSP introduced by developed countries in the 1970s has covered industrial products extensively, including most rubber products and has eliminated or reduced many duties applicable to developing countries in the sector.

9. Nordic countries (Finland, Norway and Sweden) and Switzerland provide developing countries MFN duty-free treatment or unlimited GSP duty-free treatment¹ for all items in Chapter 40 with the exception that Finland excludes "4011 rubber tyres" from GSP and does not apply GSP on certain rubber products from Hong Kong. The United States also grants such treatment with some exceptions (HS Nos. 4008.21, 4011.50, 4013.20, ex 4015.19, 4015.90 and 4016.95).

10. Canada grants natural rubber other than sheets and strip MFN duty-free treatment. Sheets and strip and most other rubber products are subject to MFN duties of 10.2-11.7 per cent or GSP rates of 6.5-7.5 per cent. Rubber gloves and apparel are subject to MFN duties of 22.5-25 per cent or GSP rates of 15-16.5 per cent.

¹The expression "provide developing countries duty-free treatment" is used in this document to provide a succinct picture of the tariff situation affecting exports from developing countries. Details of such treatment, i.e., whether "duty-free" is on an MFN basis, bound or unbound, or under the GSP, are shown in tables.

11. Japan has granted all items in Chapter 40 MFN or GSP duty-free treatment. While its GSP treatment is subject to monthly-controlled ceiling limitations and maximum country amounts, these limitations are flexibly administered. In other words, imports under GSP are allowed to continue after quantitative limitations have been reached unless a particular decision is taken not to apply GSP any longer. With respect to tyres and tubes for other than motor cars, however, the maximum country amount is not flexibly administered.

12. The EEC has also granted developing countries MFN or GSP duty-free treatment. As of 1987, all items in Chapter 40 except rubber tyres and tubes are granted unlimited GSP duty-free treatment as non-sensitive items. With respect to rubber tyres and tubes, GSP is not applicable to Romania and GSP imports from the Republic of Korea are subject to quota limitations. GSP imports from other GSP beneficiaries are subject to country-by-country ceiling limitations (see Table 6).

13. In Austria rubber products are generally dutiable at 5-20 per cent. Austrian GSP rates on all rubber products are equal to one-half of corresponding MFN rates.

14. In Australia presently applied MFN rates on rubber products are at the level of 15-25 per cent (mostly unbound) except for rubber garments for which the MFN rate is 60 per cent. GSP rates of Australia are uniformly 5 percentage points less than corresponding MFN rates.

15. In New Zealand MFN duties of 20-55 per cent (mostly unbound) apply on most rubber products. Its GSP covers all rubber products except certain rubber tyres and tubes. Its GSP rates are mostly 10-20 per cent less than corresponding MFN rates.

Table 6

EEC's GSP Quotas and Ceilings on Rubber Tyres and Tubes in 1987

CCT heading No. and NIMEXE code	Description	Community tariff quotas				Ceilings	
		Beneficiary countries or territories	Individual quota amount (ECU) (a)	Amount of first franchise (ECU) (a)	Initial share of quota amounts allocated to Member States (ECU)		
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
ex 40.11 (*) (40.11-21, 23, 52, 53)	Rubber tyres, tyre cases, interchangeable tire treads, inner tubes and tyre flaps, for wheels of all kinds: — New inner tubes and tyre cases of the kind used on bicycles, cycles with an auxiliary motor, motor-cycles or motor- scooters	South Korea	515 000	412 000	BNL 41 200 DK 18 952 D 100 116 GR 7 828 E 24 308 F 73 336 IRL 3 708 I 61 800 P 6 180 UK 74 572	103 000	3 000 000
ex 40.11 (*) (40.11-10, 25, 27, 29, 40, 45, 55, 57, 62, 63, 80)	— Other (including tyre cases with sewn-in inner tubes, for racing bicycles, and tyre flaps)	South Korea	1 369 000	1 095 200	BNL 109 520 DK 50 379 D 266 134 GR 20 809 E 64 617 F 194 946 IRL 9 857 I 164 280 P 16 428 UK 198 231	273 800	4 700 000

*GSP not applicable to Romania

Source: EC Official Journal 87-L 373

(b) Non-Tariff Measures

16. Norway restricts imports of new pneumatic tyres for passenger cars from Japan and the Republic of Korea. New Zealand maintains import licensing controls on rubber products in line with their industry development plans. Tyres and tubes will be transferred to "licensing on demand" as of 31 March 1989 and other rubber products will be similarly liberalized as of 1 January 1990. Japan restricts imports of rubber adhesives containing more than 5 per cent of benzine by volume of solvent (HS ex 4005, 4016) in accordance with the requirements of the Industrial Safety and Health Law.

17. Amongst EEC members, Portugal maintains quantitative import restrictions on such rubber products as rubber plates and sheets, rubber tubing, rubber apparel and miscellaneous rubber articles. However, those restrictions will be removed on 31 December 1992 as provided for in the accession agreement of the country with the EEC. Five EEC member countries maintain restrictions on rubber tyres and tubes. Spain restricts imports of rubber tyres and inner tubes. Greece restricts imports of tyre cases, tyre flaps and tubeless tyres and Ireland restricts imports of used tyre cases and tubeless tyres for bicycles. Italy and Portugal restrict imports of rubber tyres from Japan.

C. Trade flows and consumption

18. Between 1981 and 1986 world production of natural and synthetic rubbers increased by 12 per cent from 12.2 million tons to 13.7 million tons, of which natural rubber accounted for 30-33 per cent. The estimated world rubber consumption was only slightly different from world production.

19. Table 7 shows main exporters of natural rubber and their exports in 1981-1986. All of them are countries in the tropical zone. Table 8 shows main importers of natural rubber and their imports in 1981-1986. Major markets for natural rubber include EEC, United States, Japan, China, USSR, Republic of Korea and Canada. Table 9 shows the consumption of natural and synthetic rubbers in main consuming countries.

Table 7

Net Exports of Natural Rubber

Year	Peninsular	Malaysia	Sabah	Total (a)	Indonesia	Thailand	Sri Lanka	Vietnam	Kampuchea	Other Asia (c)	P.N.G.	Liberia	Nigeria	Other Africa (d)	C.A.C.M. (b)	TOTAL (e)
1981	1401.7	28.2	25.5	1455.4	808.7	476.0	132.5	33.7 p	4.0 *	30.8 *	4.5	76.9	23.6	57.5	8.6	3105
1982	1316.8	15.9	21.7	1354.4	801.4	546.7	131.3	32.3	7.5 *	24.2 *	2.3	60.1	26.8	57.8	7.5	3065
1983	1497.6	18.9	21.5	1537.9	938.0	552.5	125.2	35.8	10.0 *	19.0 *	2.7	73.6	28.8	62.0 *	9.7	1370
1984	1485.8	18.0	25.2	1529.0 p	1009.6	595.2	126.2	43.0 *	12.0 *	19.0 *	3.0	87.9	28.8	65.5 *	8.9 p	3525
1985	1426.4	17.4	22.0	1465.8	1000.9	685.3	120.4	44.0 *	16.0 *	24.7 *	5.1	87.2	29.1	69.0 *	0.6 p	3600
1986	1444.3	16.3	24.6	1485.2	958.7	753.8	110.0	48.0 *	15.0 *	10.3 *	4.9	90.4	14.4	78.0 *	0.0 *	3605

N.B.— P.N.G.= Papua New Guinea; C.A.C.M.= Central American Cotton Market.

(a) — Including inter-regional trade. (b) — Gross exports.

(c) — Exports from Brunei, Burma and the Philippines. (d) — Exports from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Zaire.

(e) — Including allowances for discrepancies in officially reported statistics.

Source of Tables 7, 8 and 9: Rubber Statistical Bulletin, July 1987
International Rubber Study Group

Table 8
NET IMPORTS OF NATURAL RUBBER

Year	Belgium-Lux	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Greece	Ire-land	Italy	Nether-lands	Portugal	Spain	U.K.	Total E.E.C.	Aust-riain	Fin-land	Norway	Sweden	Switz-erland	Turkey	Yugo-slavia (a)	Total O.W.E.
1981	28.1	3.2	163.8	110.0	6.2	6.8	120.8	17.4	12.0	91.3	118.6	738.1	22.5	6.9	2.6	8.3	3.0	24.8	38.4	106.3
1982	28.2	3.9	150.1	171.2	7.2	6.0	129.9	17.1	11.3	83.3	138.5	746.7	22.1	7.6	3.0	10.2	2.7	31.6	34.5P	112.0*
1983	33.1	3.9	153.0	179.5	8.2	5.4	113.1	15.7	9.7	84.6	119.0	725.2	23.5	7.5	2.9	11.8	2.5	49.9	38.5	127.7
1984	35.6	3.7	156.0	90.6	5.5	5.3	120.6	11.5	10.1	92.7	116.1	747.8	25.3	5.1	3.1	12.0	2.6	50.4	39.7	131.0
1985	36.1	3.6	155.3	202.2	3.6	1.1	131.5	11.5	11.5	116.1	131.5	821.5	27.5	5.1	3.1	12.0	3.2	46.1	44.4	146.1
1986	41.4	3.6	157.5	198.9	10.8	5.2	124.1	12.2	11.0	116.4	130.4	811.5	24.6	7.9	3.7	13.2	3.1	51.0	40.6y	144.0y

(a) - O.W.E. = Other Western Europe.

(a) - Excluding latex for 1982 and 1987 onwards.

Year	Bulgaria	Czechoslovakia	German Dem. Rep.	Hungary	Poland (a)	Romania	U.S.S.R.	Total Eastern Europe (b)	Egypt	South Africa	Other Africa	U.S.A. (c)	Canada (c)	Argentina	Brazil	Chile
1981	13.5	52.5	36.6	14.5	28.5	51.8	217.8	415.3	6.6	70.7	27.0*	650.0	81.5	17.8	42.5	4.1
1982	15.2	48.7	31.3	12.3	49.1	18.2	187.2	362.0	6.8	40.3	25.0*	620.3	71.6	22.8	38.1	1.4
1983	15.3*	49.2	45.6	16.4	42.8	40.0	237.7	447.5*	7.2	21.2	24.0*	657.0	88.5	30.2	35.2	5.1
1984	15.0*	50.6	44.5	16.2	59.0	52.2	199.2	435.0*	7.7	32.3	23.0*	757.6	103.1	32.7	57.5	7.0
1985	15.5*	46.6	39.1	13.0	56.5	37.8	166.8	375.0*	8.0*	29.0	22.5*	769.7	103.7	21.0*	60.2	5.9P
1986	12.0*	42.2*	43.0*	14.4	22.6	45.0*	168.2	347.0*	7.0*	24.0*	721.0	93.5	28.0*	6.0*	6.0*	

(a) - Including latex at gross weight; as from 1982.

(b) - As there may be some double counting in the reported exports from Malaysia and Singapore to East European countries, it is considered that some downward adjustment in the total of the import estimate is required.

(c) - Gross imports; estimated re-exports are normally less than 200 tonnes p.a. However in 1984 and 1985 the U.S.A. reported imports of NR from Canada of 3211 and 4303 tonnes respectively. For 1986 re-exports have been estimated at 4500 tonnes.

Year	Colombia	Mexico	Venezuela	Other Latin America (a)	China	Hong Kong	India	Iran	Israel	Japan	Korea	Pakistan	Taiwan	Rep.of Korea	Other Asia	New Zealand	Australia	Grand Total
1981	12.2	58.0	14.2	25.0*	138.0	4.4	36.8	13.5*	8.2	445.7	120.6	10.8	59.0	16.0*	41.4	7.7	3170	
1982	14.8	47.4	14.2	21.0*	150.5	4.2	45.8	20.0*	9.7	413.5	118.3P	10.2	67.0	18.0*	37.9	7.6	3045	
1983	14.7	37.3	12.6P	20.0*	239.9	4.1	24.5	23.0*	10.6	449.6	127.0	10.3	81.0	20.0*	28.6	5.8	3325	
1984	15.9	44.1	13.5P	19.5*	215.7	4.1	18.0	27.0*	11.0	515.0	150.4	12.4	88.0	22.0*	36.9	7.1	3554	
1985	18.0*	65.4	10.0*	19.0*	163.3	3.9	34.3	22.0*	13.9P	539.9	158.8	13.3	93.0	20.0*	35.8	6.7	3565	
1986	16.0*	45.0*	12.0*	20.0*	211.0	4.3	60.3Y	24.0*	9.0*	534.5	179.9	14.8	117.4	20.0*	30.6	6.1	3580	

(a) - Including Cuba and C.A.C.M.

Table 9

CONSUMPTION OF NATURAL RUBBER

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	France	F.R. of Germany (c)	Italy	Netherlands -lands (c)	U.K.	Other E.E.C. (d)	Other Western Europe (d)	Eastern Europe P	Aust- ralia	China	India	Japan	Other Asia (e)	Brazil	Other Latin America	GRAND TOTAL (f)	
1981	635.0	82.0*	169.0	169.1	123.0	19.0	120.0	157.0*	100.0*	400.0*	112.0*	41.9	275.0*	181.9	436.0	462.0*	74.4	145.0*	3700
1982	585.0	76.0*	158.0	171.2	123.0	17.9	118.0	140.0*	110.0*	370.0*	109.0*	36.4	305.0*	197.0	439.0	503.0*	67.8	135.0*	3660
1983	665.0	87.0*	161.0	179.5	111.0	16.4	120.0	145.0*	135.0*	405.0*	98.0*	30.9	365.0*	205.4	504.0	546.0*	70.2	149.0*	3995
1984	750.7	102.0*	162.0	190.0	117.0	11.7	118.0	157.0*	125.0*	390.0*	98.0*	35.9	402.0	212.5	525.0	597.0*	88.7	157.0*	4240
1985	764.0	95.0*	156.0	202.2	127.0	11.9	126.0	166.0*	143.0*	395.0*	94.0*	35.8	415.0*	232.7	539.5	605.0*	97.6	148.0*	4355
1986	745.0y	83.8y	158.7	198.7	133.0	12.2	130.0	185.0*	140.0*	375.0*	98.0*	30.6*	420.0*	251.7	535.0	650.0*	142.0*	142.0*	4385

(c) - Monthly allowances of 1,200 tonnes for F.R. of Germany and of 200 tonnes for the Netherlands for 1987 are included to cover consumption outside the traditional rubber industry.

(d) - Estimated consumption for most countries arrived at by correcting net imports to allow for working stocks, currently at 1.2 months' consumption.

(e) - Incl. India, New Zealand.

(f) - Including allowances for discrepancies in officially reported statistics.

CONSUMPTION OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC RUBBER

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	France	F.R. of Germany	Italy	Nether- lands	U.K.	Għħar E.E.C.	Other Western Europe	Eastern Europe P	Aust- ralia	China	India	Japan	Other Asia (c)	Brazil	Other Latin America	GRAND TOTAL (d)	
1981	2651.0	292.0*	472.4	565.4	388.0	85.8	367.0	426.0*	350.0*	2885.0*	232.0*	99.8	430.0*	225.6	1287.0	796.0*	275.7	433.0*	12265
1982	2350.0	258.0*	423.2	558.1	373.0	81.0	350.0	383.0*	370.4*	2800.0*	213.0	92.4	475.0*	247.0	821.0*	267.5	405.0*	11695	
1983	2541.5	282.0*	439.6	575.3	355.8	82.1	348.0	380.0*	420.0*	2905.0*	194.0*	75.1	545.0*	258.1	1355.0	896.0*	269.4	439.0*	12355
1984	2812.0	310.0*	449.0	593.0	380.0	73.7	365.0	423.0*	425.0*	3100.0*	195.0*	83.4	613.0	269.8	1440.0	992.0*	311.7	435.0*	13245
1985	2763.0	268.0*	467.8	613.5	403.5	70.7	364.0	438.0*	448.0*	3142.0*	187.0*	82.1	660.0*	303.1	1487.0	965.0*	332.5	404.0*	13400
1986	2820.0y	274.0y	460.3	640.9	418.0	69.3	365.0	489.0*	420.0*	3175.0*	192.0*	73.9*	530.0*	321.1	1445.0	1050.0*	408.0*	13630y	

(a) - Grossed-up estimates to 1982.

(c) - Including New Zealand.

(d) - Including allowances for apparent discrepancies in officially reported statistics.

PERCENTAGE CONSUMPTION OF SYNTHETIC RUBBER

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	France	F.R. of Germany	Italy	Nether- lands	U.K.	Other E.E.C.	Other Western Europe	Aust- ralia	China	India	Japan	Other Asia	Brazil	Other Latin America	GRAND TOTAL	
1981	76.1	71.9	64.2	70.1	68.3	77.8	67.3	63.1	71.4	86.1	51.7	58.0	36.0	19.4	66.1	42.0	73.0	66.5
1982	75.1	70.5	62.7	69.3	67.0	77.8	66.3	63.4	70.2	86.8	48.8	60.7	35.8	20.2	64.5	38.7	74.2	66.7
1983	73.9	69.2	62.9	68.8	68.9	80.0	65.5	61.8	67.9	86.1	46.7	58.2	33.0	20.4	62.8	39.1	73.9	66.1
1984	73.3	67.1	63.9	68.0	69.1	84.1	67.7	62.9	70.6	87.4	49.7	57.0	34.4	21.2	63.5	39.8	71.5	63.9
1985	72.3	64.5	66.7	67.0	68.5	83.2	65.4	62.1	68.1	87.4	49.7	56.4	37.1	23.2	63.7	37.3	70.6	63.4
1986	73.6y	69.4	65.5	69.0	68.2	82.4	64.4	61.5	66.7	88.2	49.0	61.2	38.2	21.6	63.0	38.1	65.2	67.8

N.B.- The percentage figures given above refer to the consumption of synthetic rubber expressed as a percentage of total new rubber consumed.

20. Developed countries generally import natural rubber to complement their production of synthetic rubber. Brazil and India produce both natural and synthetic rubbers and import both of them to complement their own production.

21. Tables 10, 11 and 12 show main importers and exporters¹ as well as their imports and exports in 1980-1984 with respect to rubber semi-manufactures, rubber tyres and tubes, and other rubber articles. World exports and imports¹ of rubber semi-manufactures amounted to US\$1.56 billion and US\$1.61 billion, respectively. Those of rubber tyres and tubes amounted to US\$7.35 and US\$7.91 billion, respectively, and those of other rubber articles, US\$2.10 billion and US\$2.27 billion respectively.

22. Exporters and importers of the three categories of rubber products are numerous although a major part of trade in rubber products takes place between developed countries. Major exporters of rubber tyres and tubes include EEC, Japan, Canada, Republic of Korea, United States, Brazil, Austria, Yugoslavia, Sweden and Israel.

SECTION II: Tropical wood and wood products

A. Product information

(a) Tariff and statistical classifications

23. CCCN/HS Chapter 44 covers wood and most wood products and CCCN/HS Chapter 94 covers furniture including wooden furniture. Under the CCCN, wood and wood products were classified only according to the stage of processing and product forms or uses. Under the Harmonized System, however, most commercially important varieties of tropical wood have been separately identified at the fifth or sixth digit level under four-digit

¹Market economy countries only.

headings covering logs (4403), sawn wood (4407), veneers (4408) and plywood (4412). Certain less important varieties of tropical wood falls within fifth or sixth digit HS code numbers for "other" varieties of wood.

24. As far as developed countries are concerned, the separate identification of tropical wood products under headings covering veneers and plywood is more significant than that under headings covering logs and sawn wood: the former is generally dutiable but the latter is generally free of duty.

25. Under the SITC, wood and wood products are often separated between "of coniferous wood" and "of non-coniferous wood" for statistical purposes. Most tropical wood falls within the category of "non-coniferous wood".

(b) Use of tropical wood

26. Tropical wood often has a pleasant appearance. This aesthetic value is often combined with physical qualities such as easy processing, good resistance and durability. Therefore, tropical wood of relatively high value is used for decoration (particularly in the form of veneers), for furniture, for windows, doors and frames, for ceilings, walls, parquet floors and stairways, for fine carpentry, for boats and light vessels, for sports articles and industrial implements and for lathing, carving, decorative objects and precision instruments. Tropical wood, often of medium value, that can be peeled is used for plywood and matches. Medium value tropical wood is also used as packaging and a large number of diversified goods (e.g. farming implements, rustic garden furniture and household equipment).¹

¹Source: Pilot study of Markets of High Value Tropical Timber Products in Italy, prepared for the International Tropical Timber Organization by FAO, Yokohama, 25 August 1987.

27. A detailed analysis of problems of international trade in forestry products is available in GATT document MDF/W/52, dated 15 August 1986. For example, developing countries' forest resource situation is examined on pages 60-64 of the document.

B. The commercial policy situation

(a) Tariffs

28. Tables 13-16 show the tariff rates (MFN and GSP) of eleven developed country markets with respect to (i) tropical wood in the rough and sawn, (ii) veneer, plywood, etc., (iii) wood articles and (iv) wood furniture.

An overview of the tariff situation

29. In developed countries tropical wood is generally imported free of duty as raw material. With regard to wood products, MFN duties of industrialized countries have been significantly reduced as a result of past multilateral trade negotiations. Most products in CCCN Chapters 44 and 94 (with the exception of certain sensitive items) enjoyed the 50 per cent tariff reduction in the 1964-67 Kennedy Round and the tariff reduction according to a harmonization formula in the 1973-79 Tokyo Round. Further, the GSP introduced by developed countries in the 1970's has covered industrial products extensively, including most wood products, and has eliminated or reduced duties applicable to developing countries in this sector to a large extent.

30. Nordic countries (Finland, Norway and Sweden) and Switzerland now provide developing countries MFN duty-free treatment or unlimited GSP duty-free treatment for all items in CCCN/HS Chapters 44 and 94.

Table 13
Tropical Wood in the Rough and Sawn

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus- tria	Aust- ralia	New Zeal- and
4403 (4403) (4404)	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared:						
4403.10	-treated with paint, stains, creosote or other preservatives	MFN	0%P ¹	0%B, 2.5%B	0%B, 3%B	0%B	0%P
		GSP		0%	1.5%		
4403.31	-other, of the following tropical woods: --dark rend meranti, light red meranti and meranti bakau	MFN	0%B	0%P	0%B	0%B	0%B
4403.32	--white lauan, white meranti, white seraya, yellow meranti and alan	MFN	0%B	0%P	0%B	0%B	0%B
4403.33	--keruing, ramin, kapur, teak, jongkong, merbau, jelutong and kempas	MFN	0%B	0%P	0%B	0%B	0%B
4403.34	--okoumé, obeche, sapelli, MFN sipo, acajou d'Afrique, makoré and iroko	MFN	0%B	0%B	0%B	0%B	0%B
4403.35	-- tiama, mansonia, ilomba, MFN dibétou, limba and Azobé	MFN	0%B	0%B	0%B	0%B	0%B
4403.99	-other --other	MFN	0%B	0%P ¹	0%B	0%B	0%B
4407 (44.05) (44.13) (44.28)	Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or finger-jointed, of a thickness exceeding 6 mm: -of the following tropical woods: --dark red meranti, light red meranti, meranti bakau, white lauan, white meranti, white seraya, yellow meranti, alan, keruing, ramin, kapur, teak, jongkong, merbau, GSP jelutong and kempas						
4407.21	0%B	0%P ² 10%U ²	0%B, 4% ³ 4.9% ³ B	0%B	0%B teak, 5%U ³ 15%U ³	0% 10% ³	0% 10% ⁶ 30%U ⁷
		(5%) ^{2*}	-			0% ³ 10%	0% ⁶ 20%
4407.22	--okoumé, obeche, sapelli, MFN sipo, acajou d'Afrique, makoré, iroko, tiama, mansonia, ilomba, dibétou, GSP limba and azobé	MFN	0%B	0%U as above	0%B 15%U ³	0% 0% ³ 10%	as above as above
4407.23	--baboen, mahogany (Swietania spp), imbuia and balsa	MFN GSP	0%B -	0%U as above	0%B -	as above as above	as above as above
4407.99	-other (not including coniferous) --other	MFN GSP	0%B ⁸ 6.8%	0%P ¹ 10%U ²	as above -	0%B ³ 5%B	0%B ⁵ 0% ⁶ 10%U ⁷ 30%U ¹ 0%, ⁷ 20%

¹ Except for Kiri; ² Of Lauan, kruing, mersawa and other dipterscar paceae family; ³ Planed or sanded; ⁴ Acajou d'Afrique; ⁵ Ebony; ⁶ Exceeding 6 mm thick, planed; ⁷ Exceeding 6 mm thick, sanded or finger-jointed; ⁸ Treated.

Table 14
Veneer, Plywood, etc.

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description	United States (TSUS)	Canada	Japan	EEC	Austria	Australia	New Zealand
4408 (44.05) (44.13) (44.14) (44.28)	Veneer sheets and sheets for plywood (whether or not spliced) and other wood sawn lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or finger-jointed, of a thickness not exceeding 6 mm:							
4408.20 (TSUS 24010 17 19 23 25)	-of the following tropical woods: dark red meranti, light red meranti, white lauan, sipo, limba, okoumé, obeche, acajou d'Afrique, sapelli, baboen, mahogany (Swietenia spp), palissandre du Brésil and bois de rose femelle	MFN GSP	0% 0%	15% ⁴ _U , 5% _A , 4* 15% (0%) (2.5%) ^{4*}	4% B, 4.9% B, 6% 0% (0%) (2.5%) ^{4*}	12% B 6% 0%	30% ⁷ B, 5% _U 0% 0%	0% B, 10% U, 25.5% U 0%, 10%
4408.90	-other (not including coniferous)	MFN GSP	0% 0%	0% B, 6% B, 15% ⁴ _B , 5% _A (0%) (2.5%) ^{4*}	0% B, 4% B, 4.9% B, 6% 0% (0%) (2.5%) ^{4*}	12% B 6% 0%	30% ⁷ B, 5% _U 0% 0%	0% B, 10% U, 25.5% U 0%, 10%
4409 (44.09) (44.13) (44.19) (44.28)	Wood (including strips and friezes for parquet flooring, not assembled) continuously shaped (tongued, grooved, rebated, chamfered, V-jointed, beaded, moulded, rounded or the like) along any of its edges or faces, whether or not planed, sanded or finger-jointed:	MFN GSP	0% _B , 4.5% _B , 7.6% _B 0% ¹ , - 2 (sanded, grooved)	0% P, 2.5% B, 7.5% B, 10% _U (0%) [*]	3% B, 4% B 0% 3.5% 10%	7% B, 3.5% 10%	15% _U 0% 0% 10%	0% B, 10% U, 20% U 0%, 10%
4409.20	-non-coniferous							
4410 (44.18) (44.19)	Particle board and similar board of wood or other ligneous materials, whether or not agglomerated with resins or other organic binding substances	MFN GSP	4% B 4-9.2% B	12% B, 8% A; 10% (0%)	10% B 0% 6.5%	13% B 15%	20% U 10% 20%, 10%,	20% 0% 10%,
4410.10	-of wood							
4412 (4415) (4419)	Plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood: -plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood, each ply not exceeding 6 mm thickness:							
4412.11	--with at least one outer ply of the following tropical woods: dark red meranti, light red meranti, white lauan, sipo, limba, okoumé, obeche, acajou d'Afrique, samelli, baboen, mahogany (Swietenia spp), Palissandre du Brésil or bois de rose femelle	MFN GSP	8% B, 8/ - 8/ 8/	8% B, 9.2% B - 5%, 6%	15% B, 12.5% A; 20% B, 17.5% A; 17% B, 13.5% A (0%)	10% B 18% B 9% 20%	25% U 25% 20% 25%	30% U 0% 0% 25%
4412.12	--other, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood	MFN GSP	8% B (24017) (24023) (24025) 8/ 8/	8% B, 9.2% B 17% B 20% B - 5%, 6%	15% B, 13.5% A; 13.5% A 17.5% A (0%)	12.5% A; 13.5% A 17.5% A 9% 20%	10% B 18% B 9% 20%	30% U 25% U 25%

¹ TSUS 20266; ² TSUS 20095; ³ Except flooring of oak; ⁴ Sheets for plywood; ⁵ Of lauan, kruing, mersawa and other dipterocarpaceae family; ⁶ Of laminated lumber; ⁷ Veneer sheets and sheets for plywood; ⁸ Tongued, grooved or rabbeted - 2.9¢/Kg.+2.3%_B, GSP 0%.

Table 15
Wood Articles

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description	United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus- tria	Aust- ralia	New Zeal- and	
4414.00 (4420)	Wooden frames for paintings, photographs, mirrors or similar objects	MFN	6% ^B	9.2% ^B	6.5% ^B ₄ 5.2% ^A ₅	5.1% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U	20% ^U
		GSP	0%	6%	(0%) [*]	0%	3.5%	10%	10%
4418	Builders' joinery and carpentry of wood, including cellular wood panels, assembled parquet panels, shingles and shakes:								
4418.20 (4423)	-doors	MFN	7.5% ^B	11.3% ^B	0% ^B	6% ^B	13% ^B	15% ^U	25% ^U
		GSP	0%	0%		(0%)	6.5%	10%	10%
4418.30 (4423)	-parquet panels	MFN	3.2% ^B	5.5% ^B	3.9% ^B ₄	6% ^B	10% ^B	15% ^U	25% ^U
		GSP	0%	0%	(0%) [*]	(0%)	5%	10%	10%
4418.50 (4428)	-shingles and shakes	MFN	0% ^B	0% ^B	5.8% ^B	4.9% ^B	6% ^B	15% ^U	0% ^P
		GSP			(0%) [*]	0%	3%	10%	
4418.90 (4416) (4423)	-other (TSUS 20330, 20700, 24560)	MFN	0% ^B , 5.1% ^B	4% ^B , 9.2% ^B	0% ^B , 3.9% ^B ₃ 10% ^B ₃	6% ^B	9% ^B	15% ^U	20% ^U
		GSP	0%	2.5%, 6%	ex(0%) ^{*8}	(0%)	4.5%	10%	10%
4419.00 (4424) (4427) (4428)	Tableware and kitchenware, of wood	MFN	5.1% ^B , 8.5% ^B ₇ 5.3% ^A ₇	9.2% ^B	7% ^B 5.6% ^A , 4% ^B 3.2% ^A	3% ^B	6% ^B	15% ^U	25.5% ^U 30% ^U
		GSP	0%	6%	(0%) [*]	(0%)	3%	10%	15% 20%
4420	Wood marquetry and inlaid wood; caskets and cases for jewellery or cutlery, and similar articles, of wood; statuettes and other ornaments, of wood; wooden articles of furniture not falling in Chapter 94.								
4420.10 (4427)	-Statuettes and other ornaments, of wood	MFN	5.1% ^B	9.2% ^B	4% ^B 3.2% ^A	6% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U	0% ^U , 25.5% ^U
		GSP	0%	6%	(0%) [*]	0%	3.5%	10%	15%
4420.90 (4415) (4427)	-other	MFN	3% ^B , 6.7% ^B , 2.2¢/kg +2.9% ^B , 5.1% ^B	11.2% ^B	4% ^B 3.2% ^A , ₄ 20% ^U	6% ^B , ₄ 10% ^B	10% ^B	15% ^U	20% ^U , 25.5% ^U
		GSP	0% if not lined with textile fabric	7%	(0%) [*]	0%	5%	10%	10%, 15%
4421.10 (4428)	Other articles of wood -clothes hangers	MFN	5.1% ^B	9.2% ^B	5.8% ^B	4.9% ^B	7% ^B	15% ^U	30% ^U
		GSP	0%	6%	(0%) [*]	0%	3.5%	10%	20%
4421.90 (4424) (4426) (4428)	-other	MFN	0-8% ^B , ₁ 16 2/3% ^B , ₁ 10¢/ ^B ₂ gross B ^B	0-15% ^B	5.7% ^B ₄ 4.6% ^A , 5.8% ^B ₅ 10% ^B ₅	2.5% ^B 4.4% ^B , 4.6% ^B , 4.9% ^B , 7.5% ^B	6% ^B	15% ^P ₆	0% ^P , 10% ^U , 30% ^U
		GSP	ex0%	0-10%	(0%)	0%	3%	10%	0% 20%

¹TSUS 20665 certain wood blinds; ²79005 clothespins, ³spring type; ⁴Cellular wood panel;
⁵Wood marquetry and inlaid wood; ⁶Kushi, of bamboo; ⁷Match splints 40%^B not applied; ⁸spring rollers
 for blinds - 15%; other - unbound; ⁹Forks and spoons; GSP does not cover "tategu" (window sash
 and the like) and "tokobashira".

Table 16
Wooden Furniture

H.S. Code No. (CCCN)	Harmonized commodity description		United States	Canada	Japan	EEC	Aus-tria	Aust-ralia	New Zealand
9401 (9401)	Seats and parts thereof: -other seats, with wooden frames	MFN	3.4% ^B , 5.3% ^B , 2.5% ^B	15% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3% ^A , 5.4% ^B ² , 4.3% ^A ²	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U ,
9401.61	--upholstered	GSP	0%	10%	(0%)	0%	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9401.69	--other	MFN	6.6% ^B , 3.4% ^B , 5.3% ^B , 2.5% ^B	6% ^B ⁴ , 15% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	4% ⁴ , 10%	(0%)	0%	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9401.90	-parts (of wood)	MFN	6.6% ^B , 5.3% ^B	15% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	7% ^B	25% ^U , 30% ^U	40% ^U
		GSP	0%	10%	(0%)	0%	3.5%	20%, 25%	22.5%
9403 (9403)	Other furniture and parts thereof:								
9403.30	-wooden furniture of a kind used in offices	MFN	6.6% ^B , 2.5% ^B	15% ^B , 16.1% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	10%, 10.5%	(0%)	(0%)	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9403.40	-wooden furniture of a kind used in the kitchen	MFN	6.6% ^B , 2.5% ^B	15% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	10%	(0%)	(0%)	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9403.50	-wooden furniture of a kind used in the bedroom	MFN	6.6% ^B , 2.5% ^B	15% ^B , 15.3% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	10%	(0%)	(0%)	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9403.60	-other wooden furniture	MFN	6.6% ^B , 2.5% ^B	15% ^B	4% ^B ³ , 3.2% ^A ³ , 4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	27% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	0%	(0%)	(0%)	13.5%	25%	22.5%
9403.90 (TSUS) (72715) (72740)	-parts (of wood)	MFN	5.3% ^B ,	15% ^B	4.8% ^B , 3.8% ^A	5.6% ^B	23% ^B	30% ^U	34% ^U
		GSP	0%	10%	(0%)	(0%)	11.5%	25%	22.5%

¹For vehicles²Covered with leather³Shelved furniture (excluding cupboards and bookcases) designed to be hung, to be fixed to the wall or to stand alone on the other⁴Church pews

31. The United States also grants such treatment with some exceptions (plywood, not tongued, grooved or rabbetted; certain miscellaneous wood articles). Canadian imports of logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets are granted MFN duty-free treatment. Most other wood products are subject to MFN duties of 4-15 per cent. The Canadian GSP scheme covers all of these wood products at the rates of 0-10.5 per cent.

32. With respect to all items in Chapters 44 and 94 Japan provides developing countries MFN or GSP duty-free treatment, with the exception that plywood and window sash are dutiable on an MFN basis and that GSP rates on certain sawn tropical woods (lauan, etc.,) and sheets for plywood are positive at one-half of corresponding MFN rates. Japan's GSP on wood products are subject to different types of ceiling limitations and maximum country amounts as indicated in Table 17.

33. The EEC also provides developing countries MFN or GSP duty-free treatment except for planed or sanded sawn tropical wood. However, GSP imports of 4 sensitive items are subject to quota/ceiling limitations (see Table 18 for details) Romania is excluded from the application of GSP on certain wood items.

34. In Austria rough and sawn wood except planed or sanded sawn wood has been granted MFN or GSP duty-free treatment. Wood products are subject to MFN duties of 6-18 per cent and wood furniture, MFN duties of 7-27 per cent. All wood products have been covered by GSP at one-half of corresponding MFN rates.

35. In Australia rough and sawn wood (except planed or sanded sawn wood) as well as veneer sheets have been granted MFN or GSP duty-free treatment. MFN duties on other wood products range between 15 per cent and 30 per cent (mostly unbound). The Australian GSP scheme covers all of these wood products. GSP rates of Australia are uniformly 5 percentage points less than corresponding MFN rates. If MFN rates are reduced, GSP rates will be automatically reduced.

Table 17

Japan's quantitative limitations for GSP application (FY 1987)

M = Monthly control

D = Daily control

Flexible administration = imports under GSP are allowed to continue after quantitative limitations have been reached unless a particular decision is taken to discontinue GSP application.

GSP Cat.	Tariff Nos. (CCCN)/ description	Control of ceilings	Flexible admin. of ceilings	Flexible admin. of maximum country amounts	Ceiling quotas by value (1,000 yen)
47	44.03-2 Of Kiri (genus Paulownia) (non- tropical)	M	0		1,109,989
48	44.04-2, 44.05-2 and 44.13-2	M			1,901,206
49	44.05-4 Of Lauan, Kruing, Mersawa and other Dipterocar paceae family (GSP= 1/2 of MFN)	M		0	5,244,748
50	44.09-2 Drawn of bamboo 44.28-5-(2) Skewers of bamboo	D			4,017
51	44.14-2 Sheets for plywood (GSP= 1/2 of MFN)	M		0	978,499
52	44.14 (other than 44.14-2)	M	0	0	1,253,478
53	44.15	M		0	624,092
54	44.11 and 44.18	M	0	0	591,339
55	ex 44.23 Transom	M	0		5,755,764
56	44.24 Waribashi (disposable wooden chopsticks)	D			1,222,760
57	Goods in Chapter 44 not referred to above	M		0	20,078,038
140	Chapter 94 other than 94.01-3 and 94.03-3 (other than of base metal or No.94.04-1).	M			25,646,465

Table 18

EEC's GSP treatment on sensitive wood items

CCT heading No and NIMEXE code	Description	Community tariff quotas			Ceilings Individual ceiling for countries or territories other than those under column 4 (ECU) (a)
		Beneficiary countries or territories	Individual quota amount (ECU) (a)	Amount of first tranche (ECU) (a)	
44.11 (*) exHS 4411	Fibre building board of wood or other vegetable material, whether or not bonded with natural or artificial resins or with other organic binders	Brazil	4 000 000	3 200 000	BNL 320 000 DK 147 200 D 777 600 GR 60 800 E 188 800 F 563 600 IRL 28 800 I 480 000 P 48 000 UK 579 200
44.15 (*) HS 4412 ex4420.90	Plywood, blockboard, laminboard, batten-board and similar laminated wood products (including veneered panels and sheets); in-laid wood and wood marquetry	Brazil Indonesia Malaysia Philippines Singapore South Korea	86 000 m ³	84 750 m ³	BNL 3 730 m ³ DK 5 000 m ³ D 6 520 m ³ GR 160 m ³ E 1 770 m ³ F 250 m ³ IRL 1 710 m ³ I 730 m ³ P 130 m ³ UK 64 750 m ³
44.23 HS 4418 ex9406	Builders' carpentry and joinery (including prefabricated and sectional buildings and assembled parquet flooring panels)				9 500 000
94.03 (*) (94.03-21, 23, 25, 27, 33, 35, 39, 49, 51, 55, 57, 61, 63, 65, 66, 67, 69, 71, 82, 91, 95, 99)	Other furniture and parts thereof: B. Other furniture than for aircraft, seats and medical furniture				5 500 000

* GSP on these items and CCCN 4418 (HS ex4410) reconstituted wood are not applicable to Romania.

36. In New Zealand rough and sawn wood (except sanded or finger-joined sawn wood) have been granted MFN duty-free treatment. MFN duties on most wood products range between 10 per cent and 40 per cent (mostly unbound). The New Zealand GSP scheme covers all wood products at 0-25 per cent.

(b) Non-tariff measures

37. Apart from quotas maintained by Denmark (EEC) on imports of wooden seats and wooden furniture from the Republic of Korea, only New Zealand maintains some non-tariff measures on products in this category. Recently liberalized products, i.e. exempt from licensing, include plywood, laminated wood, veneer sheets and sheets for plywood, shaped wood (excluding balsawood), wooden cases, wooden frames, and builders carpentry and joining (L/5640/Add.18/Supp.1). Remaining products are subject to automatic licensing (licence on demand) while fibreboard (CCCN ex 4419, HS4411) and wooden beadings and mouldings (CCCN ex 4419, HS 4409), other articles of wood (CCCN ex 4428, HS ex 4421.90 etc.), and household utensils (CCCN ex 4424, HS ex 4419.00 and ex 4421.90) are allocated "basic" licenses which restrict volume.

38. The construction industry and the wood processing industry are the users of wood and wood products: domestic building techniques and regulations necessarily influence buying patterns. Technical standards for the use of wood products, which differ substantially from import market to import market, and phytosanitary measures to control insect pests may create obstacles to trade (cf. MDF/W/52, "Problems of International Trade in Forestry Products", 15 August 1986).

C. Trade flows

39. Tables 19-24 show main importing and exporting countries and their imports and exports in 1980-1984 with respect to the following six categories of products:

Table 19

Imports and Exports of Rough and Roughly Squared Wood (logs)

SITC: 247
 CCCN: 4403, 4404
 HS: 4403

IN THOUSAND U.S. DOLLARS /										EN MILLIERS DE DOLLARS S.U.							
COUNTRIES-PAYS		IMPORTS - IMPORTATIONS					COUNTRIES-PAYS		EXPORTS - EXPORTATIONS								
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984			1980	1981	1982	1983	1984				
World Market Economy		9337378	6439207	6060431	5298079	5244081	Economies de Marche		6706237	4487280	4578825	4331368	4724892				
Africa	107916	110270	104734	92907	82342	80235	Afrique		1115670	801683	845315	830470	863365				
North Africa	85679	90723	72530	86075	70235		Afrique du Nord		206	104	31	41	1345				
Americas	160700	151291	133345	163026	161656		Ameriques		1775051	1233823	1496676	1439813	1502244				
LAIA	39484	32740	19538	21788	12644	1435	LAIA		74087	335275	108154	104854	105465				
CACM	1109	1645	627		1090		CACM		4905	2014	67	923	1972				
Asia	6741497	4579622	4501090	3839354	3831802		Asie		2943466	1934847	1982771	1903542	2054991				
Middle East	117146	140181	152280	94893	54468		Moyen Orient		2978	6259	23160	6212	17837				
Europe	2344430	1594360	1316351	1199141	1164701		Europe		751413	605804	483815	433705	453228				
EEC (Ten)	1803286	1184338	980014	905906	886024		CEE (Dix)		36221	279144	233544	232322	243087				
EEFTA	323206	293079	249904	205038	192743		EELE		328188	291958	197652	171639	183268				
Oceania	x2790	x3665	x2992	x2852	x3370		Oceanie		x139736	x111123	x120227	x123038	x151064				
Japan/Japon	3600250	3640366	3594207	3005936	3058264		Malaisie		1203030	1072122	1447687	1434664	1521604				
Korea Republic	860258	647699	611328	591636	571066		USA-Etats-Unis d'Amér		1614819	1129302	1293637	1194507	1205682				
Italy/Italie	633390	453909	362534	288405	303001		Indonésie		1553927	675655	327859	286086	253361				
Germany Federal Rep.	420849	264679	228678	243003	242437		Ivory Coast/Côte d'Iv		6640425	271297	212253	196180	270374				
France	397903	237110	211460	19376	18776		France		134548	113171	89168	96772	110460				
Austria/Autriche	127800	106333	102927	94876	90503		Gabon		271805	94448	96148	97580	144751				
Spain/Espagne	180318	76754	5975	72381	71417		Canada		54574	85627	130913	138574					
Saudi Arabia	75258	92078	9370	17392	49104		Finnland Finlande		101226	114343	68842	66164	68058				
Canada	69786	61142	59586	81236	106542		Chile/Chili		71270	25164	104903	102800	98300				
Portugal	65931	89340	67377	40344	39731		Philippines		76096	78477	73740	140229					
Belgium-Luxembourg	117085	73744	53004	51675	56489		Germany Federal Rep.		106173	88555	72666	60768	64363				
Hong Kong	67974	52927	55610	48837	50176		Burma Birmanie		58709	62078	63182	60100					
Greece/Grecia	77180	36531	47550	51442	46062		Papua New Guinea		43393	46790	66031	73323	75668				
USA-Etats-Unis d'Amér	34045	35433	37874	42523	33365		Congo		15669	60703	62408	40829	52407				
Netherlands/Pays Bas	64938	40521	33442	33947	33793		Allemagne		108777	80311	59722	42857					
Singapore/Singapour	36445	41956	30747	39438	39550		Belgium-Luxembourg		64738	50523	47881	46906	46906				
United Kingdom	33473	37500	35151	37423	26124		Switzerland Suisse		76361	61108	63353	37466	41846				
Egypt/Egypte	21624	27152	38122	32213	30460		Cameroon Cameroun		110805	52718	43227	33940	33296				
Syrian Arab Republic	90708	11322	20918	50900	49020		Ukraine Ukraine		63797	32313	29216	22223	21337				
Yugoslavia	37281	38360	26352	13635	14289		Yugoslavie		34023	29420	27636	25159	24417				
Morocco/Maroc	33580	30480	30259	141649	22440		Solomon Isl. Salomon		25936	29135	28425	27084	24558				
Israel/Israël	12560	25727	26244	22920	22100		New Zealand		64480	32146	21810	25255	17520				
Algeria/Algérie	19484	16357	21305	35182	19233		Hong Kong		7238	21079	16089	16130	14430				
Finland/Finlande	29780	28330	25900	21810	27905		Sweden Suède		20438	19888	14242	15664	16951				
Switzerland/Suisse	41489	31296	20107	19425	18924		Ghana		10877	27932	9586	9184	8382				
Sweden/Suède	42608	28603	23326	17641	19520		United Kingdom		12386	8190	6139	7900					
Thailand/Thaïlande	10087	15451	14585	31141	36193		Denmark Danemark		6860	6016	8098	9655	4667				
Venezuela	16349	18745	10155	10450	1266		Zeire/Zaire		16615	12332	11483	9016	10892				
Norway/Norvège	12646	11919	8041	10108	7499		Turkey Turquie		637	4307	21724	5759	17122				
Iraq	1969	x7008	x1972	x4004	x12043		Singapore Singapour		5416	7463	5671	974	8804				
Iran (Islamic Rep. o)	x18516	x16753	x4094	x5736	x5809		Norway Norvège		17435	11614	8793	7212	8310				
Denmark/Denmark	12163	8494	8296	8050	10915		Central African Rep.		27407	11713	10650	33335	45500				
Dominican Republic	10297	8510	5371	8136	11		Netherlands Pays Bas		13995	8793	84761	5768	6575				
Brazil/Brésil	6911	6484	3922	8474	10557		Japan/Japon		4733	6882	5013	7411	8558				
So. Africa Customs Un.	13275	9796	5540	x509	x469		Equatorial Guinea		2328	x806	7031	7240	10330				
Morocco/Macao	1900	740	6495	x8379	x4212		Spanish Espagne		6937	5264	4927	4540	2431				
Iceland/Irlande	6285	8051	4282	1985	2502		India Inde		11278	12184	1713	574	221				
United Arab Emirates	3504	4233	5387	x1203	x1203		Suriname Surinam		2777	x5231	x4349	x3946	x2037				
United Arab Emirat Jordan	6152	x10192	x382	x3473	x3500		So. Africa Customs Un.		5386	4406	2926	2644	2663				
Tunisia/Tunisie	4828	4186	2910	3358	3358		Portugal		5-1	4653	2863	2773	2463				
Oman	x1196	4803	3204	2393	2906												
Bangladesh	4756	5086	2936	1098	2354												
Mexico/Mexique	x19180	x4212	x3531	x67	x1376												
Panama	1004	3160	3111	641	289												
Saint Christophe et Nevis	3304	x3773	x2972	x185	x215												
India/Inde	1658	5552	x549	x661	x108												
Pakistan	4622	2780	1465	2321	1934												
Iceland/Irlande	2728	3268	1893	1213	317												
Senegal/Sénégal	4100	2716	x2307	x1380	x1019												
Lebanon/Liban	x1043	x1441	x15	x3667	x2914												

X = estimates

Source of Tables 19~24: UN 1984 International Trade Statistics Yearbook - Volume II
 These Tables do not include East Europe, China and Taiwan Province (China).

Table 20
Imports and Exports of Sawn Wood

MTN.GNG/NG6/W/15
 Page 33

SITC: 248
 CCCN: 4405, 4407, 4413
 HS: 4406-4408, 4409.20

COUNTRIES-PAYS	IN THOUSAND U.S. DOLLARS				EN MILLIERS DE DOLLARS E.U.			
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1980	1981	1982	1983
World Afrique Economy	14224618	11210798	10109878	11235147	10804778	Economie de Marche	11031128	8975950
Africa	743429	804035	726518	150801	150978	Af.-Cte.	+20847	8031463
North Africa	623338	696586	627018	1529789	1541748	Af.-Nord	+202	9254210
Americas	2923301	2774198	2323486	3376386	3400076	Ameriques	4431967	3009923
LATA	238953	210903	144165	89099	8428	ALAT	442995	3302638
CACM	737	1477	1022	888	8197	MCAC	20927	214844
Asia	2348744	1735308	1851705	100327	864789	Asie	1529783	1252740
Middle East	1801175	602382	584188	1637383	1493779	Moyen-Orient	+30736	1183600
Europe	7966116	5653410	4988749	5255303	5016944	Europe	474207	3546971
EEC (Ten)	7037147	4919142	4367148	4656676	442446	CEE (Dir)	600657	5271958
ETTA	561037	455040	395532	38464	394073	AEET	3715842	2365141
Oceania	243007	250147	217221	203226	273391	Océanie	106458	90295
USA Etats-Unis d'Amér.	2304000	2102973	1789407	2007740	204475	Corée	77952	74875
United Kingdom	1575173	1166477	1380733	1380733	13505	Canada	2898604	2554012
Italy/Italie	1467775	1074314	878389	778401	836120	Suède-Suède	1031707	1065297
Germany Federal Rep.	1447948	942154	795917	91234	91234	USA Etats-Unis d'Amér.	941434	918903
Japan/Japon	1239353	786894	803086	841668	802443	Allemagne-France	130043	915250
France	890489	592859	515020	48794	3737	Malaisie-Malaisie	817698	844456
Netherlands/Pays-Bas	780228	522271	460953	571006	4	Australie-Australie	86853	624017
Belgium-Luxembourg	436998	319030	275855	269429	283748	Véga-Véga	30024	487264
Egypt/Egypte	209983	209933	271382	183464	210556	Singapour-Singapour	241252	221678
Saudi-Arabia	267185	227806	207038	201656	21147	Bresil-Bresil	190523	162279
Canada	250015	252538	155767	246292	243492	Irlande-Irlande	106021	106021
Australia-Australie	713892	222636	186520	174035	230493	Corée-Corée	253202	216769
Algérie-Algerie	187582	170688	175380	172367	175849	Irlande-Suède	122511	221425
Spain-Espagne	206051	202698	181399	179306	166017	Philippines-Philippines	171310	152392
Denmark-Danemark	290746	181462	164982	206463	249427	Portugal-Portugal	123740	149087
Singapore-Singapour	158720	139173	135085	139741	130782	Néerlande-Pays-Bas	73354	73442
Switzerland-Suisse	159507	140515	119300	112346	119702	Belgique-Luxembourg	84677	644054
Norway-Norvège	126281	112626	113300	104277	100087	Norvège-Norvège	70694	76730
Austria-Autriche	138017	115190	99262	105436	105914	Irlande-Irlande	66103	80459
Ireland-Islands	113731	103462	76974	70016	682267	Belgique-Luxembourg	68215	69147
Cuba	88263	88203	84321	75761	+50245	New-Zélande-New-Zélande	63329	63329
Iraq	+85525	+59037	+80754	+57716	+65383	Inde-Inde	63599	68995
Thailand-Thaïlande	44897	45976	59026	48238	61213	Pérou-Pérou	121283	101016
Greece-Grece	29917	57113	64883	66910	63657	Néerlande-Pays-Bas	84677	68662
Argentina-Argentine	143104	89340	51715	40850	28896	Belgique-Luxembourg	70694	76730
Trinidad et Tobago	41430	40600	68891	74115	+23731	Portugal-Portugal	68215	69147
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	75796	72553	56873	+46988	+38596	Inde-Inde	31815	31815
Israel-Israël	43614	56995	55222	57075	50143	Inde-Inde	670554	670554
South Africa Customs Un	77637	68102	50264	279010	+20234	Inde-Inde	27405	21559
United Arab Emirates	97967	63855	45515	+40842	+13091	Inde-Inde	23469	23469
Tunisia-Tunisie	62166	47385	53452	+40033	54578	Greece-Grece	216769	221425
Morocco-Moroc	74627	60631	58880	+27192	51655	Danemark-Danemark	895529	85093
Yugoslavia	46602	71468	38492	28424	24041	Australie-Australie	363215	34225
Syrian Arab Republic	81686	61693	50762	21154	+26399	Irlande-Irlande	32048	34093
Kuwait-Koweït	50494	42715	60075	+15332	+18429	Portugal-Portugal	123740	149087
Mexico-Mexique	+51911	+60386	34353	+16924	+120068	Portugal-Portugal	10252	10252
Sweden-Suède	89663	46992	28844	31770	36491	Portugal-Portugal	12173	11365
Iran/Islamic Rep. (p. b.)	+85322	+44206	+15267	+1728	+38437	Portugal-Portugal	12173	11365
Yemen-Yemen	+33842	+16921	+33936	+40210	+23072	Turkey-Turkey	12173	11365
Korea Republic	13379	27924	28773	32993	47475	Turkey-Turkey	14125	13335
Jordan-Jordanie	21187	25070	26457	29475	34744	Corée-Corée	106021	106021
Hong Kong	28644	28341	30926	27533	27668	Australie-Australie	10458	9408
Venezuela	17244	24441	+31413	+934	+5700	Irlande-Irlande	127288	123355
Oman	20278	18370	25676	23766	24097	Portugal-Portugal	10409	9408
Sudan-Soudan	13404	26376	+11049	+10663	+10514	Malaisie-Malaisie	14632	13346
Iceland-Islands	21715	15782	15009	13764	+13013	Portugal-Portugal	127086	12660
Reunion-Réunion	13604	14753	14307	12350	10251	Portugal-Portugal	12173	11365
Jamaica-Jamaïque	4030	13103	16907	+10640	+11577	Belize-Belize	1140	13685
Brazil-Brésil	25315	17672	12899	7833	9241	United Arab Emirates	+8223	+8004
Pakistan	8541	12133	20152	5769	5163	Mexico-Mexique	+3632	+3459

(VALUE AS % OF TOTAL MARKET ECONOMY)(VALEUR EN % DU TOTAL DES ECONOMIES DE MARCHÉ)												
1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1975	1976	1977
Africa	6.6	4.0	5.8	4.7	3.3	5.2	7.2	7.2	8.5	2.8	1.8	1.9
North Africa	5.2	3.1	5.3	4.2	2.7	4.6	6.2	6.2	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Americas	23.1	24.1	27.2	32.1	27.3	+20.6	+24.7	+22.9	+30.1	+31.3	Ameriques	41.3
LATA	2.5	1.0	1.2	1.1	+1.1	+1.8	+1.9	+1.4	+0.8	+0.5	ALAT	4.0
CACM	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	MCAC	0.8
Asia	12.2	12.0	12.7	+11.6	+14.6	+16.5	+13.5	+19.4	+6.0	+10.3	Moyen Orient	10.3
Middle East	3.3	4.4	4.8	+3.8	+3.9	+5.6	+5.4	+5.8	+5.7	+4.6	Moyen Orient	0.2
Europe	55.9	56.8	52.3	49.9	53.1	56.0	50.4	49.3	46.8	42.8	Corée	25.3
EEC (Ten)	49.5	51.0	46.6	44.3	47.6	49.5	43.2	41.4	40.6	45.4	CEC (Dir)	10.9
ETTA	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.9	4.1	3.0	3.4	4.0	AEET	34.1
Oceania	2.0	2.4	1.0	1.7	+1.7	+1.7	+2.2	+2.7	+1.8	0.7	Océanie	0.7
USA Etats-Unis d'Amér.	15.7	19.0	22.6	27.8	22.7	15.5	18.7	17.7	23.0	29.6	Corée	33.9
United Kingdom	14.9	14.2	12.2	10.7	11.4	10.7	10.4	11.7	12.3	12.5	Sweden-Suède	10.6
Italy/Italie	8.3	8.7	7.4	7.4	8.7	10.3	9.1	8.7	6.9	14.6	USA Etats-Unis d'Amér.	10.9
Germany Federal Rep.	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.7	9.1	10.2	8.4	7.9	8.1	12.9	Finland-Finlande	7.7
Japan/Japon	6.9	6.3	5.7	5.6	8.1	8.6	7.0	9.1	7.5	12.5	Malaisie-Malaisie	4.8
France	4.6	3.5	4.6	4.1	5.3	6.3	5.3	5.1	4.0	9.4	Australie-Australie	7.1
Netherlands/Pays-Bas	6.3	7.0	6.8	6.2	6.0	5.5	4.7	4.6	4.6	6.7	Singapour-Singapour	2.7
Belgium-Luxembourg	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.4	3.4	United Arab Emirates	1.7
Egypt/Egypte	1.9	1.1	2.7	2.2	0.9	1.5	2.8	2.7	+1.6	3.5	Bresil-Bresil	2.0
Saudi-Arabia	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.6	Germany Federal Rep.	2.7

		Total of market economy countries (not including Taiwan Province)	
		Exports (1984) US\$ Million	Imports (1984)
(i)	Rough and roughly squared wood (logs)	4,725	5,244
(ii)	Sawn wood	9,580	10,894
(iii)	Veneers	771	780
(iv)	Plywood	1,562	1,907
(v)	Wood articles	2,720	3,149
(vi)	Furniture* and parts, of all materials	9,526	11,521

*only a minor part is of wooden furniture.

40. Among the exporting countries of logs listed in Table 19, main exporting countries of tropical wood include Malaysia, Indonesia, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Philippines, Burma, Papua New Guinea, Congo and Cameroon. By far the largest market for logs is Japan, followed by EEC, Republic of Korea, Taiwan Province (China), Canada, Austria, Hong Kong, United States, Singapore, Thailand, Egypt, Finland, Morocco, Israel, Sweden, Algeria and Switzerland.

41. Among the exporting countries of sawn wood listed in Table 20, main exporting countries of tropical sawn wood include Malaysia, Indonesia, Brazil, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Côte d'Ivoire, Burma and Honduras. Main markets for sawn wood include EEC, United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Algeria, Taiwan Province (Chine), Switzerland, Singapore, Austria and Norway.

42. Among the exporting countries of veneers listed in Table 21, main exporting countries of tropical wood veneers include Brazil, Malaysia, Thailand, Congo, Indonesia, Philippines, Côte d'Ivoire and Singapore. Main markets for veneers include EEC, United States, Japan, Canada, Sweden, Austria, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Australia, Singapore and Tunisia.

43. Among the exporting countries of plywood listed in Table 21, main exporting countries of tropical wood plywood include Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Gabon, Hong Kong and Côte d'Ivoire . Main markets for plywood include EEC, United States, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sweden, Canada, Australia, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Kuwait, Oman, Yemen, Switzerland, Egypt and Algeria.

44. Among the exporting countries of wood articles (HS 4414-4416, 4418-4420, ex 4421.90), main exporting countries of tropical wood articles include Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan Province (China)², Republic of Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Brazil, Hong Kong, Cuba, India, Mexico, Indonesia and Honduras. Main markets for wood articles include EEC, United States, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Japan, Canada, Algeria, Iraq, Norway, Austria, Australia, Finland, Sweden, Singapore, Hong Kong, Israel, Libya, Nigeria, Bahamas and Mexico.

45. As shown in Table 24 covering furniture of all materials, a large majority of trade in furniture and parts takes place among industrialized countries. According to an ITC study¹, the bulk of furniture imports from developing countries consist of wooden furniture (primarily, living room and dining room furniture) and wooden furniture parts and components, as well as rattan and bamboo seating and other furniture. Among the exporting countries of furniture and parts listed in Table 24, main developing countries' exporters include Taiwan Province (China)², Yugoslavia, Hong Kong, Philippines, Singapore, China², Republic of Korea, Thailand, Mexico, Turkey, Brazil, Malaysia and India. The United States is by far the largest market for furniture and parts from developing countries, followed by EEC, Japan, Australia and Canada.

¹Major Import Markets for Wooden Household Furniture, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, Geneva 1982.

²China and Taiwan Province are not covered by Tables 19-24. Taiwan's exports of wood articles and furniture amounted to US\$451 million and US\$721 million respectively in 1984.

46. Import data for tropical wood and some of their products (sawn wood, veneers and plywood) are available for some countries in terms of cubic meter (Table 25). The table below shows the total of nine countries covered by the table.

		1981		1986	
		million m ³	%	million m ³	%
All wood	Logs	36.3	43	34.0	36
	Sawn Wood	43.8	52	56.2	59
	Veneers	0.9	1	1.0	1
	Plywood	3.3	4	4.1	4
	Total	84.3	100	95.3	100
Tropical Wood	Logs	18.5	75	14.5	67
	Sawn Wood	4.0	16	4.2	19
	Veneers	0.4	2	0.4	2
	Plywood	1.9	8	2.6	12
	Total	24.8	100	21.7	100

47. As far as these nine countries are concerned, their imports of all wood in four forms increased from 84.3 million m³ in 1981 to 95.3 million m³ in 1986. However, their imports of tropical wood decreased from 24.8 million m³ to 21.7 million in the period. With regard to tropical wood, the share of sawn wood and plywood increased at the expense of logs. However, the share of sawn wood in tropical wood trade is still much lower than that in all wood trade.

48. A major factor affecting the level of consumption and imports of wood and wood products is new housing construction, which is in turn largely influenced by the general economic situation. Another major factor which

Table 25

Imports of tropical wood and tropical wood products
by selected importing countries (1981 and 1986)

(Unit: 1,000 m³)

	USA	JAPAN	BELGIUM/ LUXEMBURG	FRANCE	GERMANY F.R.	ITALY	NETHER- LANDS	U.K.	AUSTRALIA	SINGAPORE	Total 9 countries
1981											
Saw + veneer logs total	459	28447	308	1593	1497	3347	269		0.9	352	36273
Coniferous	398	13481	13	91	636	1103	22	0.1	0.1	5.0	15750
Non-coniferous	61	14966	296	1502	861	2244	247	0.8	0.8	347	20523
of which TROPICAL	7.7	14914	100	1449	556	988	126	n.a.	0.6	347	18438
Sawnwood total	21883	3811	1358	2689	4383	5026	2447		1112	1071	43780
Coniferous	21222	3396	905	2096	3664	4019	1789		814	5.8	37911
Non-coniferous	661	415	453	594	719	1006	658		298	1065	5869
of which TROPICAL	429	375	155	374	463	329	480		289	1065	3960
Veneers total	382	29	43	130	128	64	58		20	92	945
of which TROPICAL	134	21	22	21	56	7.2	23		10	88	394
Plywood total	1310	22	234	292	474	115	475		65	323	3310
of which TROPICAL	1155	14	53	101	71	21	142		40	320	1917
1986											
Logs total	289.01	27772.22	326.81	1132.55	1476.45	2527.78	309.46	73.17	0.81	114.73	33,951
Coniferous	208.92	15542.59	16.52	57.47	613.31	873.87	58.43	3.55	0.16	2.35	17,378
non-coniferous	80.09	12229.63	310.29	1076.08	863.14	1645.91	251.03	69.62	0.65	11.2.38	16,572
of which tropical	8.01	12166.38	97.01	1001.54	440.78	504.51	132.47	52.08		112.38	14,463
Sawnwood total	33639.47	5476.92	1391.19	2243.96	4465.14	4675.21	2794.68	763.35	743.06	56,193	
Coniferous	32884.81	4512.66	923.16	1790.09	3697.48	3603.32	2119.63	522.59	1.61	50,055	
non-coniferous	754.66	964.26	468.03	453.87	767.66	1071.89	675.05	604.12	240.76	74.1.45	6,138
of which tropical	430.75	820.12	231.81	386.19	501.12	380.51	517.83	415.46	231.11	74.1.45	4,241
Veneers total	441.37	60.08	36.24	138.76	150.03	91.64	48.76	103.10		39.67	998
of which tropical	137.57	53.71	15.05	22.23	75.95	28.05	14.37	28.27		26.49	374
Plywood total	1691.88	154.36	267.10	308.42	554.81	114.10	580.35	1199.49		242.90	4,114
of which tropical	1447.59	341.76	96.24	160.64	109.12	11.61	224.62	594.04		241.91	2,633

MTN GNC/NG6/W/15

Page 4

Source: FAO Monthly Bulletin - Tropical forest products in world timber trade, December 1981 and 1986.

will affect the level of future trade in tropical wood would be the supply of such wood. A 1985 report called "Tropical Forests: A Call for Action" by an International Task Force convened by the World Resources Institute, the World Bank and the UNDP provides the following information on supply prospects:

"Developing countries possess nearly half the world's closed forests, but they produce only 21 per cent of its industrial timber. Many developing countries have both large natural forests and ecological conditions that are suitable for fast-growing industrial plantations. However, a decline in the area of accessible commercial forests is causing serious problems. In most of these countries current levels of forest management and reforestation fall far short of what is needed to limit imports and sustain exports. Exports to industrialized countries are very important for some developing countries, but the most critical problem for the future is the growing inability of many countries to meet their domestic needs for industrial forest products.

"Imports of forest products by developing countries are increasing sharply, even in such countries as Nigeria, Thailand, and Mexico which should readily be able to supply their own domestic needs. Imports have risen from about US\$6 billion in the early 1970s to almost US\$10 billion today.

"In fourteen developing countries with suitable conditions for an expanded industrial forestry programme, imports of manufactured forest products now total nearly US\$4 billion a year. Unless action is taken, this level of imports will continue to rise sharply.

"Over the past decade, exports of industrial forest products by developing countries have averaged about US\$7 billion (1984 prices) and rank fifth overall in non-oil exports. The value of exports has risen sharply during this time but it is doubtful that this rate of growth will continue unless additional investment is made to sustain the productivity of industrial forest resources.

"In a number of countries, notably Cameroon, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Malaysia and the Philippines, current rates of timber harvesting and insufficient investment in forest management and reforestation will lead to a sharp decline in exports within 10-15 years. On a smaller scale, the same trend is perceptible in many other countries. In Ghana, for example, exports have fallen from a high of 124 million cubic meters in 1973 to 11 million cubic meters in 1982.

"By the end of the century, the thirty-three developing countries that are now net exporters of forest products will be reduced to less than ten, and total developing country exports of industrial forest products are predicted to drop from their current level of more than US\$7 billion to less than US\$2 billion."

SECTION III: Activities of international organizations

49. Several international organizations undertake work which is relevant and complementary to negotiations in the GATT on tropical products. With respect to inter-governmental facilities to compensate for shortfalls in commodity export earnings, the IMF Compensatory Financing Facility and the STABEX programme for ACP countries are noteworthy as measures of financial transfers to stabilize export earnings, while the variety of development projects and financial arrangements to promote and diversify commodity exports are numerous. Certain products in this group are covered by STABEX operations: unmanufactured wood (CCCN 4403, 4404, 4405) and rubber (4001).

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

50. The FAO Commodities and Trade Division pioneered commodity research and techniques for international co-operation in commodities, including natural rubber. This Division, whose activities are geared towards improving the functioning of international trade in agricultural commodities, monitors the world market situation and advises developing countries on the implementation of their national commodity policies. The FAO Forestry Department produces a monthly bulletin on tropical forest products in world timber trade.

51. Among regional agencies of the United Nations the ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division services the ECE Timber Committee which reviews market developments and economic and technical aspects of the wood processing industry.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

52. Under United Nations auspices, UNCTAD is a major forum for international commodity action. Its principal achievements have been the Integrated Programme on Commodities (IPC), established as a result of Resolution 93(IV) at UNCTAD IV and the Agreement on the Common Fund for Commodities. Agreements on natural rubber and tropical timber have been established under the Integrated Programme.

53. A new International Agreement on Natural Rubber was formally adopted on 20 March 1987 by the United Nations Conference on Natural Rubber. Seven producers and thirty-three consumers representing about 90 per cent of world trade on natural rubber thus ensured that there would be a successor instrument to the 1979 INRA that expired on 22 October 1987. Ratification by countries representing at least 75 per cent of both exports and imports will be needed before the agreement is operational. Until then, buffer stock price stabilization operations will be suspended.

54. The new agreement has retained the same reference price, 201.66 Malaysia/Singapore cents (about 87 US cents) a kilo and the same intervention prices, "floor" and "ceiling" prices remaining at 150 and 270 cents respectively. The major change in the new agreement is the reference price review mechanism which will now be automatic. If the daily market indication price is above the upper "intervention" price ("may sell") or below the lower ("may buy") for six months, the reference price is adjusted by 5 per cent unless the International National Rubber Council decides on a higher adjustment. As a further step in tailoring the agreement more closely to market developments, price reviews take place every fifteen rather than, as previously, every eighteen months.

55. The buffer stock remains the sole price stabilization instrument; maximum volume is unchanged at 550,000 tonnes. Financing of the buffer stock is shared equally by producers and consumers according to their respective trade shares within each of the groups; new provisions for borrowing to finance stock purchase.

International Tropical Timber Organization

56. Following a resolution of the United Nations Conference on Tropical Timber held in November 1983, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD convened a Preparatory Committee for the first session of the International Tropical Timber Council. Tropical timber is defined as non-coniferous tropical wood for industrial uses which is grown in the tropical zone; the term covers logs, sawnwood, veneer sheets and plywood. The International Tropical Timber Agreement established to provide an effective framework for cooperation and consultation between producing and consuming countries entered into force provisionally on 1 April 1985. The first meeting of the International Tropical Timber Organization took place in Yokahama in March 1987. Members currently numbering forty-one, represent more than 95 per cent of tropical timber trade.

57. In addition to encouraging policies to manage and conserve tropical forests the objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement are to (i) provide the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber, (ii) encourage further processing and improve marketing and distribution activities in producing member countries and (iii) improve market intelligence.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

58. The Wood and Wood Products Industry is one of the industries included in consultations between developed and developing countries directed towards the industrialization of developing countries. The first consultations which took place in 1983 addressed problems and made recommendations concerning the development of processing industries and the promotion of wood and wood products.

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC)

59. The ITC is the focal point for technical co-operation regarding the promotion of developing countries trade. With respect to rubber the ITC is in the process of implementing a project on Integrated Export Development support in natural rubber products. For tropical timber and timber products ITC is carrying out two multi-year interregional projects on builders wood work and wood-based panels. Various proposals on export development are awaiting financing.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

60. The ISO has been engaged in standardization work in the field of forestry, timber and wood products since 1947. Several hundred international standards cover aspects such as terminology, classification, dimension and test methods on such products as sawn timber, plywood and furniture.

International Rubber Study Group

61. This intergovernmental organization has as its principal objective, the comprehensive compilation of statistical information on production, consumption and trade in natural and synthetic rubber.