

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG6/TI/1/Add.3

13 June 1988

Special Distribution

Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

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Negotiating Group on Tropical Products

RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The attached communication received from the delegation of Colombia in response to requests for additional trade information addressed by the United States (MTN.GNG/NG6/TI/1) is circulated to the members of the Group.

Permanent Mission of Colombia
to the United Nations Office
and International Organizations
at Geneva

No. 459

Geneva, 13 May 1988

H.E. Michael Samuels
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of the
United States of America
Geneva

Dear Mike,

In reply to your letter of 30 March 1988, I have pleasure sending you herewith the information I have received from Bogotá answering the questions put by your delegation in the framework of the Uruguay Round Negotiating Group on Tropical Products.

This information does not imply that Colombia has accepted that negotiations should be conducted in the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products on matters other than those contained in its mandate such as agricultural support measures.

I remain at your disposal for any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Felipe Jaramillo
Deputy Ambassador

ADDITIONAL SURCHARGE ON IMPORTS

All imports into Colombia are subject to an additional 18 per cent surcharge. Nevertheless, imports of foodstuffs by the Agricultural Marketing Institute (IDEMA) for direct human consumption are exempt from this additional surcharge when intended for use other than as raw materials or inputs. Similarly, the surcharge is applied at the rate of only 10 per cent on imports by that Institute of foodstuffs other than for direct human consumption.

Being situated in the tropical zone, Colombia is self-sufficient in tropical products and the latter make up the major part of its exports. In practice, therefore, neither the tariffs nor the additional surcharges established in respect of such products have any restrictive effect.

COCOA AND TOBACCO

As regards imports of cocoa and tobacco the situation is as follows: Cocoa beans (18.01) are liberalized for import, while products falling within headings 18.02 to 18.05 are subject to prior licensing.

Manufactured tobacco products (heading No. 24.02) are prohibited for import with the exception of products of other tobacco, cut or shredded, for the industrial manufacture of cigars, and likewise extracts and essences and other products, which are subject to prior licensing.

COLOMBIAN IMPORTS

(US\$)

Product	Year	System		Total	Country of origin
		Free	Prior licensing		
Aniseed (0909.10)	1984	-	-	-	Western Germany United States, Ecuador, Spain
	1985	-	-	-	
	1986	30,000	1,390	31,390	
	1987	157,000	28,350	185,350	
Peanuts	1984	63,250	-	63,250	United States, Costa Rica United States, Argentina
	1985	5,950	-	5,950	
	1986	-	-	-	
	1987	-	-	-	
Tobacco	1984	509,400	-	509,400	Western Germany, Brazil, Venezuela Western Germany, United States, Brazil Western Germany, Brazil, Denmark Western Germany, United States, Denmark
	1985	1,252,467	-	1,252,467	
	1986	555,500	-	555,500	
	1987	39,373	-	39,373	
Plaits and similar articles of plaiting materials	1984	15,150	9,128	24,278	Hong Kong, Japan, Western Germany United States Hong Kong, Japan, Western Germany Japan, Western Germany
	1985	-	46,818	46,818	
	1986	-	20,488	20,488	
	1987	-	8,880	8,880	

Source: INCOMEX approved records

Note: Although these products fall within the Prior Import Licensing System, the Free Import Régime is applied to the great majority of such imports because they are destined for the Intendencia of San Andrés which enjoys a special régime, or are covered by Andean Pact commitments.

EXPORT INCENTIVES

Product	Harmonized system	Export incentives
Oilseeds	1202.10.99	None
Plaits and similar articles of plaiting materials	4601.10.91	9 per cent duty refund (since 26 January 1987)
Black leaf tobacco	2401.1030	14 per cent duty refund (since 30 December 1985)
Cut flowers	0603.10	9 per cent duty refund, except when going to the United States and Puerto Rico, in which case the refund is 0 per cent