

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG5/W/196
14 August 1990

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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

Negotiating Group on Agriculture

COMPLIANCE REPORTS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 16 OF THE
MID-TERM REVIEW DECISION ON AGRICULTURE

Report by Australia (12 July 1990)

1. As part of the April TNC Agreement, participants agreed to a package of short-term reform measures aimed at signalling their commitment to long-term liberalization of agricultural trade. An important element of the package on short-term elements was the participants' agreement to report on their compliance with the undertakings to freeze existing levels of support and reduce support and protection levels in 1990.
2. Further to Australia's notification on cutback commitments for 1990, as contained in MTN.GNG/NG5/W/116, and its compliance report, as contained in MTN.GNG/NG5/W/134, Australia therefore wishes to present its second report, setting out its further compliance with the commitment to ensure that domestic and export support and protection levels prevailing in April 1989 in the agricultural sector were not subsequently exceeded. Australia makes this report in light of the draft guidelines provided by the secretariat in MTN.GNG/NG5/W/117.
3. Australia is pleased to confirm that no new programmes have been introduced to increase support to the agricultural sector. Indeed, the Government is continuing its efforts to restructure domestic agriculture to make it more responsive to market signals. While support and protection levels applying to agriculture at 1 June 1990 were not changed from those applying at 1 December 1989, a number of industries will have significant reductions in support or protection applying from 1 July 1990. These sectors include wine, dried vine fruits and tobacco. Details of changes for these sectors are set out in the attachment. Other sectors such as sugar, apples and pears will undergo further reductions in assistance later in 1990-91. Other industries, including beef, sheepmeat, oilseeds, rice and cotton are not directly supported by any Federal Government programmes.
4. The industry details contained in the accompanying attachment are supplementary to, and to be read in conjunction with, those in MTN.GNG/NG5/W/134 and summarize Australia's compliance with the short-term undertakings made at the April TNC.

ATTACHMENT

Changes to Support and Protection Arrangements
since 1 December 1989 - by Commodity

N.B. (a) All tariff rates are subject to a 5 per cent ad valorem concession for developing countries.

(b) This Attachment is to be read in conjunction with MTN.GNG/NG5/W/116.

Wine

Support prices: Not applicable

Tariff levels or non-tariff measures:

As at 8 April 1989: Tariff on imports of 15-31% (champagne 13%)

As at 1 December 1989: Tariff on imports of 15-27% (champagne 12%)

As at 1 June 1990: No change

As at 1 July 1990: Tariff on imports of 15-23% (champagne 11%)

Dried vine fruit

Support prices: There have been no payments under the sultana underwriting scheme set out in MTN.GNG/NG5/W/116 since 1982 and it is forecast that there will be no payments made in the medium term.

Tariff levels or non-tariff measures:

As at 8 April 1989: Tariff on imports of 23%

As at 1 December 1989: Tariff on imports of 21%

As at 1 June 1990: No change

As at 1 July 1990: Tariff on imports of 19%

Orange juice

Support prices: Not applicable

Tariff levels or non-tariff measures:

As at 8 April 1989: Tariff on imports of 27%

As at 1 December 1989: Tariff on imports of 24%

As at 1 June 1990: No change

As at 1 July 1990: Tariff on imports of 21%

Tobacco

Support prices: Not applicable

Tariff levels or non-tariff measures:

As at 8 April 1989: Tariff on imports of 23%
or if lower \$A 1.42/kg.

As at 1 December 1989: Tariff on imports of 21%
or if lower \$A 1.42/kg.

As at 1 June 1990: No change

As at 1 July 1990: Tariff on imports of 19%
or if lower \$A 1.07/kg.