

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The following communication has been received from the Office of the United States Trade Representative on 7 November 1990.

The United States submits the following information to the Surveillance Body regarding implementation of the commitment to standstill and rollback pursuant to the Punta del Este Declaration and the procedures adopted by the Surveillance Body. This communication is made without prejudice to the question of consistency with the General Agreement of the restrictions concerned.

Rollback

This information supplements information provided earlier to the Surveillance Body.

The United States wishes to inform the Surveillance Body that on 20 August 1990 the President of the United States signed into law the Customs and Trade Act of 1990. Included therein at Sections 111-115 is a revision of the US customs user fee, in response to the panel report adopted on 2 February 1988 (BISD 35th Supp. at 245). A copy of the relevant sections of the Customs Trade Act of 1990 and associated legislative history has been provided to the Secretariat for information.

Status of other rollback notifications

- RBC/1: The United States takes note of the partial contribution made by the Government of Japan with respect to the QRs applied through its import licensing system, in particular on certain agricultural products. The United States does not seek additional consultations on the remaining items but nevertheless awaits additional action from the Government of Japan on the remaining restrictions.
- RBC/4: The United States considers completed consultations with Uruguay which clarified US programmes.
- RBC/7: With respect to discussions on steel, the United States notes that the VRAs under the President's steel programme are scheduled to expire in 1992. (There is no agreement between

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the United States and Argentina.) In the interim, the United States is working with its trading partners to expand international disciplines to eliminate subsidies and other distorting measures which create obstacles to international trade in steel products. With respect to wheat, consultations were concluded.

RBC/15: When the panel report on Section 337 was adopted, the United States indicated it would take steps to make the necessary modifications in domestic legislation and that it regarded the Uruguay Round implementing legislation as the most appropriate legislative vehicle for accomplishing such modifications. An active consultative process is on-going in the United States to seek the comments of all interested parties on implementation issues; interested foreign governments have been able to participate in this process.

RBC/16: The consultations held with the Government of Chile with respect to QRs and import licensing for cheese under the provisions of Section 22 of the Agricultural Act of 1933, were without prejudice to the US view that these are not measures subject to rollback. It was recognized that this is a matter closely related to the on-going Uruguay Round negotiations on agriculture. No additional consultations were deemed necessary.

RBC/18: The United States takes note of the actions announced by the EC (RBC/19/Rev.1) and looks forward to further action with respect to the QRs notified. The United States does not seek additional consultations.

RBC/20: The United States considers completed the consultations with Argentina on the matter of export subsidies for vegetable oils.

Status of selected standstill notifications

SB/SN/1: Rollback notifications for Customs User Fees and Superfund Tax have been submitted to the Surveillance Body.

SB/SN/2: The United States withdraws this standstill notification in light of the abolition of the practices in question, 14 March 1990.

SB/SN/3: The United States continues to consult regularly with the Government of Japan on this case.

SB/SN/17: The United States notes for the information of the Surveillance Body that the measures reflected in the notification were terminated effective 2 July 1990 and the dispute settlement panel was subsequently terminated (see C/169/Add.1).