

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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COUNCIL

12-13 December 1963

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS FOR JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1964

Note by the Executive Secretary

The Trade Negotiations Committee and its subsidiary bodies propose to hold further meetings in the early part of 1964. The decisions concerning these meetings are set out below so that they may be taken into account by the Council in its planning of other meetings to be held during the same period.

The Trade Negotiations Committee will hold its next meeting at the beginning of February. It will then, among other things, receive a further report from the Sub-Committee on the Tariff Negotiating Plan, which will be convened at a date to be decided by the Chairman in consultation with members of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers will reconvene on 15 January. The Sub-Committee on the Participation of less-Developed Countries will also reconvene before the next meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee. The Committee on Agriculture will reconvene early in 1964 and will be prepared to meet for a sufficient length of time to permit substantial progress to be made. Plans have also been made for meetings early next year of the Groups on Cereals, Meat and Dairy Products.

Although the Working Group on Preferences and the Committee on the Legal and Institutional Framework of the GATT are still in session and the Action Committee will be meeting next week, it is to be expected that these bodies will wish to have provision made for further meetings in the not distant future. However, for reasons indicated by the Executive Secretary, when speaking to Point 2 on the Council's agenda, it is suggested that it be decided now by the Council that these three bodies should resume their work during the period of the twenty-first session.

A few meetings have already been scheduled for the period prior to the twenty-first session, namely:

- 27-29 January - The group of experts appointed by the Committee to examine the possible rôle of the GATT in the field of financial assistance.
- 4 - 6 February - The group of experts appointed by Committee III to examine the question of trade information services for the benefit of less-developed countries.
- 17-20 February - The special group on Trade in Tropical Products (to seek solutions to the problems facing the cocoa industry in so far as they come within the purview of the GATT.)

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At the meeting of the Council on 12 December, two other meetings were proposed for the period prior to the session. The first was a meeting of the Budget Committee to examine various aspects of the problems of conference and secretariat accommodation. It is proposed that this meeting will be arranged by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the members. Secondly, a working party is to be established to examine the question of the provisional accession of Iceland. It is proposed that this working party should meet during the session.