

19 SEPTEMBER 1975

SUBJECT: NON-TARIFF MEASURES SUB-GROUP "CUSTOMS MATTERS"

1. AS AGREED BY GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES", THE SUB-GROUP "CUSTOMS MATTERS" WILL RECONVENE AT 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 1975, IN THE PALAIS DES NATIONS.
2. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE SUB-GROUP AGREED TO REVERT AT THIS MEETING, INTER ALIA, TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:
 - (a) CUSTOMS VALUATION: ELEMENTS THAT PARTICIPANTS WISHED TO HAVE INCLUDED IN ANY NEW SET OF INTERNATIONAL RULES ON CUSTOMS VALUATION TO BE ADOPTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS;
 - (b) IMPORT DOCUMENTATION: ELEMENTS THAT PARTICIPANTS CONSIDERED TO BE EXCESSIVE IN OTHER COUNTRIES' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS;
 - (c) CUSTOMS PROCEDURES: DELAYS INCURRED IN THE FORMAL CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCESSES AND PENALTIES FOR ERRORS.
3. THE SECRETARIAT WAS REQUESTED TO PREPARE DOCUMENTS ON THE TOPICS MENTIONED IN 2(a) AND (b) ABOVE, ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUP. INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM SOME MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUP. MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUP WHO HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO GATT/AIR/1188 AND GATT/AIR/1189 RELATING TO IMPORT DOCUMENTATION AND CUSTOMS VALUATION RESPECTIVELY ARE INVITED TO DO SO WITHOUT DELAY. THE SECRETARIAT WILL CIRCULATE DOCUMENTS ON THESE TOPICS BEFORE THE MEETING ON THE BASIS OF THE REPLIES RECEIVED.
4. IT WILL ALSO BE RECALLED THAT MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUP WHICH FELT IT NECESSARY TO RETAIN CONSULAR FORMALITIES WERE INVITED TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THEIR CONTINUED EXISTENCE AND POSSIBLE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR ABOLITION (DOCUMENT MTN/NTM/4 PARAGRAPH 9).
5. ANNEXES 8 AND 9 OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL, CIRCULATED IN DOCUMENT MTN/NTM/W/17, CONTAINS THE LIST OF PARTICULARS REQUIRED BY THE CUSTOMS FOR FORMALITIES ON THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

6. THE MEETING IS OPEN TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE INDICATED THEIR DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND HAVE THUS ASSUMED MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE. SUCH MEMBERS ARE ACCORDINGLY INVITED TO INFORM ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP.

7. REPRESENTATIVES NOT HAVING YET REGISTERED FOR THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ARE REQUESTED TO REGISTER WITH THE CONFERENCE OFFICER, VILLA LE BOGAGE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY ENTRANCE CARDS.

O. LONG