

GATT/AIR/131

30 MAY 1958

SUBJECT: INFORMATION FOR THE REVIEW OF BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS  
IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IN 1958

1. AT THE TWELFTH SESSION THE CONTRACTING PARTIES, ACTING ON A REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS RESTRICTIONS (SEE BISD, SIXTH SUPPLEMENT, pp.39-40), DECIDED THAT THE REVIEW OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS APPLIED UNDER ARTICLES XII AND XVIII:B, PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 4(b) AND PARAGRAPH 12(b) OF THE TWO ARTICLES RESPECTIVELY, BE EFFECTED IN 1958 AND COMPLETED AT THE THIRTEENTH SESSION. THE REVIEW SHOULD CONSIST OF A FACTUAL STUDY OF THE GENERAL DEGREE AND EXTENT OF THE RESTRICTIONS APPLIED BY CONTRACTING PARTIES AS A WHOLE AS WELL AS THE LEVEL, METHODS AND EFFECTS OF THE RESTRICTIONS APPLIED BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. THE SECRETARIAT WAS ASKED TO PREPARE A DRAFT DOCUMENT FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL AT THE THIRTEENTH SESSION.
2. IN PREPARING THE DRAFT DOCUMENT THE SECRETARIAT IS REFERRING TO INFORMATION THAT IS ALREADY AVAILABLE TO IT, IN PARTICULAR, THE "BASIC DOCUMENTS" PREPARED IN 1957 IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED IN CONNEXION WITH THE ARTICLE XII CONSULTATIONS HELD IN THAT YEAR. IT IS AWARE THAT SINCE THAT TIME SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE RESTRICTIONS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES. IN THE CASE OF COUNTRIES FOR WHICH NO SUCH "BASIC DOCUMENTS" EXIST, THE INFORMATION IN THE POSSESSION OF THE SECRETARIAT IS OFTEN EVEN LESS COMPLETE OR UP-TO-DATE.
3. AS AUTHORIZED BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES IN PARAGRAPH 15 OF THE WORKING PARTY REPORT I SHOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT:
  - (a) THOSE CONTRACTING PARTIES WITH WHICH CONSULTATIONS WERE HELD IN 1957, SUPPLY THE SECRETARIAT WITH A SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE BRINGING UP TO DATE THE "BASIC DOCUMENTS" RELATING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES, AND
  - (b) THOSE CONTRACTING PARTIES WHICH APPLY IMPORT RESTRICTIONS UNDER ARTICLE XII OR ARTICLE XVIII:B BUT WITH WHICH NO CONSULTATIONS WERE HELD IN 1957, SUPPLY INFORMATION AS COMPREHENSIVE AS POSSIBLE ON THE SUBJECTS WHICH WERE COVERED IN SUCH "BASIC DOCUMENTS".
4. IN ORDER THAT THE DRAFT MAY BE COMPLETED FOR TRANSMISSION TO GOVERNMENTS WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION, CONTRACTING PARTIES ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE