

15 OCTOBER 1976

SUBJECT: NON-TARIFF MEASURES SUB-GROUP "QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS"

1. THE SUB-GROUP "QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS" WILL RECONVENE AT 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 1976. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE PALAIS DES NATIONS.

QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS (INCLUDING IMPORT PROHIBITIONS AND SO-CALLED VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRAINTS)

2. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT AT ITS JULY 1976 MEETING (MTN/NTM/20) THE SUB-GROUP AGREED TO REVERT TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS AT THIS MEETING:

- (a) REPORTS ON CONSULTATIONS HELD UNDER THE PROCEDURE AGREED BY THE SUB-GROUP AT ITS APRIL 1975 MEETING (MTN/NTM/2, PARAGRAPH 6(i)-(iii)). SUMMARY NOTES RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/40 AND ADDENDA. IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARIAT WILL SHORTLY CIRCULATE IN MTN/NTM/W/54/REV.1 AN UPDATED NOTE SUMMARIZING THE STATUS OF THE CONSULTATIONS. DELEGATIONS WHO HAVE NOT YET SUBMITTED SUMMARY NOTES WITH RESPECT TO CONSULTATIONS IN WHICH THEY HAVE PARTICIPATED AS EXPORTING OR IMPORTING COUNTRIES ARE INVITED TO DO SO WITHOUT DELAY (GATT/AIR/1299).
- (b) ANALYSIS OF THE EXISTING SITUATION ON THE BASIS OF THE RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS (MTN/NTM/2, PARAGRAPH 6(iii) AND MTN/NTM/20, PARAGRAPH 4).
- (c) POSSIBILITY OF FORMULATING ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES FOR BILATERAL AND/OR PLURILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS, AND POSSIBILITY OF WORKING OUT A GENERAL FORMULA OR FORMULAE OF AUTOMATIC APPLICATION (MTN/NTM/2, PARAGRAPH 6(iv) AND MTN/NTM/20, PARAGRAPH 5). IN THIS CONTEXT ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO A PROPOSAL EARLIER CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/6.
- (d) DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT INCLUDING SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN FAVOUR OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (MTN/NTM/20, PARAGRAPH 6). IN THIS CONTEXT, ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO PROPOSALS EARLIER CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/29, COM.TD/138 AND 198, MTN/3B/15, MTN/3B/18 (ANNEX) AND MTN/3B/20.

- (e) THE QUESTION OF ENSURING AN ACCURATE AND COMPLETE DATA BASE ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS (MTN/NTM/20, PARAGRAPH 9).
- (f) THE SUB-GROUP ALSO AGREED TO REVERT AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING TO THE QUESTION OF A REVIEW OF THE GATT PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (NTM/NTM/20, PARAGRAPH 8).

IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

3. IT WILL BE FURTHER RECALLED THAT AT ITS JULY 1976 MEETING THE SUB-GROUP AGREED TO CONTINUE ITS DISCUSSION ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES, WITH A VIEW TO A DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THE TWO DRAFT TEXTS REPRODUCED AT PAGES 15-19 OF MTN/NTM/W/2 AND OF THE DIFFERENT PROPOSALS MADE BY DELEGATIONS AND CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/11 AND ADDENDA. AS REQUESTED BY THE SUB-GROUP, PRIOR TO THE MEETING THE SECRETARIAT WILL CIRCULATE IN MTN/NTM/W/39/REV.3 AN UPDATED NOTE, PRESENTING IN A SYSTEMATIC MANNER ALL COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS MADE THUS FAR. DELEGATIONS WHO HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO GATT/AIR/1300 ARE INVITED TO DO SO WITHOUT DELAY.

4. 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.

O. LONG