

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

1. AS AGREED BY GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES", THE SUB-GROUP "QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS" WILL RECONVENE AT 10 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 1977. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BUILDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION - ROOM B.

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

2. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT AT ITS NOVEMBER 1976 MEETING (MTN/NTM/24, PARAGRAPHS 7-9) THE SUB-GROUP AGREED TO FOCUS ITS DISCUSSION AT THIS MEETING ON THE PROPOSALS AND SUGGESTIONS MADE IN CONNEXION WITH THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- (A) 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(i-ii)). IN THIS CONTEXT ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO PROPOSALS AND STATEMENTS CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/6, MTN/NTM/W/29, MTN/NTM/W/66 AND MTN/NTM/W/67;
- (B) DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT INCLUDING SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN FAVOUR OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONTEXT ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO PROPOSALS AND STATEMENTS CIRCULATED IN COM.TD/188, COM.TD/198, MTN/3B/15, MTN/3B/18 (ANNEX) AND MTN/NTM/W/29, AS WELL AS A NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED IN MTN/3B/20.

3. IT WILL ALSO BE RECALLED THAT AT ITS NOVEMBER 1976 MEETING THE SUB-GROUP AGREED TO REVERT AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING TO THE QUESTION OF A REVIEW OF THE GATT PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE INTEREST OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (MTN/NTM/24, PARAGRAPH 12).

4. MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUP MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER 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.2 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.

IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

5. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT AT ITS NOVEMBER 1976 MEETING THE SUB-GROUP REQUESTED THE SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE A SINGLE WORKING DOCUMENT BASED ON THE SPECIFIC COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS THAT HAD BEEN MADE THUS FAR BY DELEGATIONS, TOGETHER WITH THE RESPECTIVE PARAGRAPHS OF THE DRAFT TEXTS ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES PREPARED BY WORKING GROUP 4 OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (MTN/NTM/24, PARAGRAPH 13). THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/73 AND CORR.1.

6. IT WILL ALSO BE RECALLED IN THIS CONNEXION THAT THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" AT ITS LAST MEETING AGREED THAT A MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP WOULD BE HELD AT TECHNICAL LEVEL ON 7-8 MARCH 1977, OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED DELEGATIONS, WITH A VIEW TO WORKING OUT AN IMPROVED TEXT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS IN THE SUB-GROUP (MTN/NTM/24, PARAGRAPH 13). A SEPARATE AIRGRAM (GATT/AIR/1348) IS BEING CIRCULATED IN THIS RESPECT.

7. 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 GROUP.

O. LONG