

GATT/AIR/183

29 February 1960

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION
EXAMINATION BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE STOCKHOLM
CONVENTION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES AGREED UPON AT THE FIFTEENTH SESSION A CONSOLIDATED LIST OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION ESTABLISHING THE EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN PREPARED FROM THE QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT. THE QUESTIONS WERE TRANSMITTED TO THE SIGNATORY GOVERNMENTS ON 26 FEBRUARY, AND COPIES ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO CONTRACTING PARTIES IN DOCUMENT L/1151. IN VIEW OF THE DELAY IN THE TRANSMISSION OF THESE QUESTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED (OWING TO THE LATE RECEIPT OF COPIES OF THE CONVENTION AND OF THE QUESTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS), I HAVE ASKED THEM TO LET ME HAVE THEIR REPLIES BY THE END OF MARCH, INSTEAD OF BY 15 MARCH AS ENVISAGED AT THE FIFTEENTH SESSION. THE REPLIES WILL BE TRANSLATED AND DISTRIBUTED TO CONTRACTING PARTIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT WILL NOT BE PRACTICABLE FOR THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO MEET TO EXAMINE THE REPLIES ON 28 MARCH AS PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED. THE EARLIEST TIME WHEN IT WOULD BE PRACTICABLE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE REPLIES WOULD BE THE THIRD OR FOURTH WEEK OF APRIL AND AS THIS WOULD BE SO SHORTLY BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION I PROPOSE THAT, IF CONTRACTING PARTIES AGREE, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD MEET DURING THE WEEK IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE SESSION, I.E. THE WEEK COMMENCING 9 MAY. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT COMMITTEE II ON EXPANSION OF TRADE WILL BE MEETING THAT SAME WEEK AND I SUGGEST THAT THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE SHOULD MEET IN THE MORNINGS AND COMMITTEE II IN THE AFTERNOONS.

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