

GATT/AIR/331

5 JUNE 1963

SUBJECT: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

IT WAS INDICATED IN GATT/AIR/330 THAT A MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE, TO BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY MINISTERS ON 21 MAY (MIN(63)9), WOULD BE CONVENED TOWARDS THE END OF JUNE OR EARLY IN JULY. I NOW PROPOSE THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BEGIN AT 3 P.M. ON THURSDAY 27 JUNE AT THE PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA.

I WOULD EXPECT THAT THIS FIRST MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE WOULD BE BRIEF. ITS PRINCIPAL PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH ITS WORK PROGRAMME AND TO SET UP SUB-COMMITTEES TO ELABORATE A TRADE NEGOTIATING PLAN IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN SECTION A OF THE RESOLUTION.

A SUB-COMMITTEE SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO DEAL WITH THE THREE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS WHICH SHOULD BE SETTLED IF POSSIBLE BY 1 AUGUST, NAMELY THE PROBLEMS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPHS B3(a) AND (b) OF THE RESOLUTION. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THIS SUB-COMMITTEE SHOULD MEET IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE FOR AS LONG AS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THESE TASKS. THIS SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO HAVE TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEM RAISED IN PARAGRAPH B3(c) BUT THESE QUESTIONS MIGHT PERHAPS BE TAKEN UP SOMEWHAT LATER.

THE COMMITTEE SHOULD ALSO ESTABLISH AN AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE WORK OF THE SPECIAL COMMODITY GROUPS AND TO CONSIDER AND MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR DEALING WITH OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS WHICH ARE NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED BY THE TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN (PARAGRAPH B3(d)). SECONDLY THERE SHOULD BE A SUB-COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED ON NON-TARIFF MEASURES AND OTHER SPECIAL PROBLEMS (PARAGRAPH B3(e)). I FEEL HOWEVER THAT IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY FOR THESE SUB-COMMITTEES TO MEET BEFORE SEPTEMBER.

CONTRACTING PARTIES AND ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS WHICH DECIDE TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE ENQUIRY IN GATT/AIR/330 ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM ME BY 24 JUNE OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL ATTEND THIS MEETING.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

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