

5 AUGUST 1963

SUBJECT: WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE AND
SUBSIDIARY BODIES

A. GENERAL

1. THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE AND PART OF ITS SUBSIDIARY MACHINERY HAVE NOW BEEN ESTABLISHED, AND ONE OF THE TASKS OF THE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT MEETING WILL BE TO COMPLETE THIS MACHINERY.

2. IN CONSIDERING THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE COMMITTEE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES IT IS IMPORTANT TO BEAR IN MIND THAT THESE ARE NOT DISCUSSION GROUPS BUT NEGOTIATING BODIES. THEIR WORK IS ESSENTIALLY PART OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THE RESULTS THEY ACHIEVE WILL FUNDAMENTALLY AFFECT THE NATURE AND CONTENT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE, LIKE THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEES IN THE PAST, MUST BE CONSIDERED TO BE IN PERMANENT SESSION SO THAT MEETINGS CAN BE CALLED OR RE-ARRANGED AT VERY SHORT NOTICE IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIS HAS BEEN POSSIBLE WITH THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEES AT EARLIER CONFERENCES BECAUSE PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS HAD NEGOTIATING TEAMS ON THE SPOT IN GENEVA. CONTRACTING PARTIES CONCERNED WILL, NO DOUBT, WISH TO CONSIDER WHAT REINFORCEMENTS OF THEIR REPRESENTATION IN GENEVA WILL BE CALLED FOR AFTER THE SUMMER RECESS IF THE NEGOTIATING MACHINERY IS TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY.

B. SPECIFIC WORK PROGRAMME

(a) SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN

4. NEGOTIATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF TARIFF DISPARITIES WILL BE RESUMED IN THE AD HOC GROUP ON 18 SEPTEMBER. THE AIM WILL BE TO CARRY THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO THE POINT WHERE FIRM PROPOSALS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

5. TO THAT END THE SUB-COMMITTEE MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET AT VERY SHORT NOTICE. AT THE SAME MEETING IT WILL HAVE TO REVIEW, IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT HAS BEEN AGREED ON DISPARITIES, THE PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT IT HAS SO FAR REACHED ON CERTAIN OTHER ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATING PLAN AND DEAL WITH ANY OTHER MATTERS NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS PLAN.

COPY FOR INFORMATION

(b) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

6. I PROPOSE THAT, AT ITS COMING MEETING REFERRED TO BELOW, THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE SHOULD DETERMINE THE COMPOSITION AND CHAIRMANSHIP OF THIS COMMITTEE AND SHOULD HAVE A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS THE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE TO HANDLE IN ORDER TO GIVE IT BROAD POLICY GUIDE-LINES FOR ITS WORK. IT WILL BE BORNE IN MIND IN THIS CONNEXION THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAVE TO:

- (i) TAKE STOCK OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE SPECIAL GROUPS DEALING WITH CEREALS AND MEAT;
- (ii) ESTABLISH A SPECIAL GROUP ON DAIRY PRODUCTS;
- (iii) DETERMINE WHETHER THERE ARE PRODUCTS OTHER THAN CEREALS, MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR WHICH "GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS" MAY BE REQUIRED;
- (iv) DETERMINE WHETHER THERE ARE ANY OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FOR WHICH "GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS" ARE NOT APPROPRIATE AND WHICH CANNOT BE COVERED BY THE ORDINARY RULES OF THE TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN AND WORK OUT RULES APPROPRIATE FOR THOSE PRODUCTS.

7. THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE IS NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A PRACTICAL START ON ITS NEGOTIATING TASK UNLESS IT HAS FIRM PROPOSALS BEFORE IT. THOSE GOVERNMENTS, THEREFORE, WHICH HAVE MATTERS ON WHICH THEY WISH TO NEGOTIATE IN THIS FIELD SHOULD SUBMIT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS IN REGARD TO THEM FOR CIRCULATION WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING. AS A MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR 2 OCTOBER, PAPERS SHOULD, IN ORDER TO GIVE TIME FOR THEIR CIRCULATION AND FOR CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS BEFORE THE MEETING, BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT BY 18 SEPTEMBER. AT ITS MEETING REFERRED TO BELOW, THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE CAN THEN TAKE NOTE OF WHAT PROPOSALS HAVE BY THEN BEEN SUBMITTED AND CONSIDER WHETHER THEY ARE SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR AN IMMEDIATE START ON PRACTICAL NEGOTIATION.

(c) SUB-COMMITTEE ON NON-TARIFF BARRIERS

8. HERE AGAIN THE ESSENTIAL THING IS TO DETERMINE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WHAT ARE THE PARTICULAR MATTERS ON WHICH INTERESTED CONTRACTING PARTIES WISH TO NEGOTIATE AND THEN TO ESTABLISH HOW THEY ARE TO BE DEALT WITH. GOVERNMENTS, THEREFORE, THAT WISH PARTICULAR MEASURES TO BE BROUGHT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE INVITED TO INDICATE WHICH THEY ARE AND SUBMIT SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS ON HOW THEY SHOULD BE DEALT WITH.

9. SIMILARLY, PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS WHICH FEEL THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE APPLICATION OF PARTICULAR PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT, IN PARTICULAR ARTICLES XIX AND XXVIII, TO THE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, SHOULD ALSO PUT FORWARD SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS AS A BASIS FOR THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE IN THIS FIELD.

10. AS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED FOR 21 OCTOBER, PAPERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT FOR CIRCULATION BY 1 OCTOBER.

(d) SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

11. GOVERNMENTS - OF DEVELOPED AS WELL AS LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES - ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS IN ADVANCE OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE. PROPOSALS FOR CIRCULATION SHOULD, I SUGGEST, BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT BY 1 OCTOBER.

(e) TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

12. I PROPOSE THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING ON 19 SEPTEMBER, AND AT THIS MEETING IT SHOULD DETERMINE THE COMPOSITION AND CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE TWO COMMITTEES REFERRED TO IN (b) AND (c) ABOVE AND HAVE A FIRST DISCUSSION OF THE MATTERS REFERRED TO THESE COMMITTEES. IT SHOULD ALSO, AMONG OTHER THINGS:

- (i) ESTABLISH THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES;
- (ii) REVIEW THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN (THE POINT REFERRED TO IN SECTION B:3(c) OF THE RESOLUTION OF MINISTERS (MIN(63)9) HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED TO ANY SUBSIDIARY BODY);
- (iii) CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF POLAND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS (TN.64/SR.1, page 2).

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