

19 FEBRUARY 1970

SUBJECT: JOINT WORKING GROUP ON IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

1. PURSUANT TO THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH A JOINT WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITH A VIEW TO THEIR POSSIBLE ELIMINATION, AS PROPOSED IN L/3260, IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT THE WORKING GROUP WILL MEET ON 13 APRIL FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS, STARTING WITH THE NOTIFICATIONS IN BTN CHAPTERS 25 AND FOLLOWING AND RETURNING LATER TO AGRICULTURAL RESTRICTIONS. THE JOINT WORKING GROUP IS COMPOSED OF CONTRACTING PARTIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS OR OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT.
2. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT WORK WILL BE FACILITATED BY CONSIDERATION OF THE RESTRICTIONS ON A PRODUCT-BY-PRODUCT BASIS. THE COUNTRIES TO BE CONSULTED WILL BE THOSE INCLUDED IN THE TABLE ANNEXED TO L/3260, WITHOUT PRECLUDING THE POSSIBILITY THAT ON PARTICULAR PRODUCTS QUESTIONS MIGHT BE PUT, IN ADVANCE OR DURING THE MEETING, TO ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES CONCERNING THEIR RESTRICTIONS.
3. IN ORDER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE AVAILABLE TIME, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE DOCUMENTATION BEFORE THE GROUP REFLECT ACCURATELY AND COMPLETELY THE RESTRICTIONS IN FORCE. ACCORDINGLY, CONTRACTING PARTIES NAMED IN THE ANNEX TO L/3260 AND OTHER PARTIES HAVING A TRADE INTEREST IN RESTRICTIONS OF THOSE COUNTRIES ARE INVITED TO EXAMINE THE TABLE ANNEXED TO L/3260 AND TO SUBMIT BY 21 MARCH AT THE LATEST ANY ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS TO THE TABLE WHETHER WITH RESPECT TO THEIR OWN RESTRICTIONS (IF THEY ARE A NAMED COUNTRY) OR WITH RESPECT TO ANY COUNTRY INCLUDED IN THE TABLE. SUBMISSIONS SHOULD IDENTIFY BY BTN NUMBER THE PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTION AND SHOULD STATE THE KIND OF RESTRICTION APPLIED. COUNTRIES MAINTAINING VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRAINTS MAY IF THEY WISH NOTIFY ACTION THEY ARE TAKING.
4. FOR 1970 THE NOTIFICATIONS MADE IN THIS CONTEXT WILL FULFIL THE NORMAL REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY SEPARATELY, AS PROVIDED IN BISD, NINTH SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 19, THOSE RESTRICTIONS WHICH CONTRACTING PARTIES CONSIDER TO BE MAINTAINED INCONSISTENTLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF GATT AND WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES.

O. LONG