

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

W.17/29  
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Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Seventeenth Session

## TURKISH TARIFF REFORM

### Renegotiation of Concessions in Schedule XXXVII - Turkey

#### Draft Decision

#### CONSIDERING

(a) That the Turkish Government intends to bring to a conclusion the general revision - initiated in 1954 - of the structure and nomenclature of its customs tariff which it considers necessary for both technical and general economic reasons; that such revision will in some instances involve increases in rates of duty specified in Schedule XXXVII; that the process of enactment of the new tariff is expected to be completed in January 1961; and that the Turkish Government considers it would not be possible to follow fully the procedures of Article XXVIII and, in particular, to divulge in advance the full details of the new tariff; since, for constitutional reasons, the tariff changes must be put into effect before negotiations can be conducted;

(b) That in order to facilitate the conduct of the requisite renegotiations the Turkish Government has given notice pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article XXVIII reserving its right, for the period under paragraph 1 of that Article beginning on 2 January 1961, to modify Schedule XXXVII in accordance with the procedures of paragraphs 1 to 3;

(c) That a partial application of the revised tariff, which would involve withholding the application of the increased rates on bound items, is technically not practicable in view of the radical changes proposed in the structure and nomenclature of the Turkish tariff;

NOTING the assurance of the Turkish Government that the tariff adjustments contemplated will not alter the general level of reciprocal and mutually advantageous concessions listed in Schedule XXXVII;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of Article XXV:5 of the General Agreement;

DECIDE, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to suspend the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Turkish Government to apply the revised tariff upon completion of the process of enactment, subject to the following conditions;

1. Concurrently with the application of the new rates of duty on items which are the subject of concessions in Schedule XXXVII, the Turkish Government will apply rates of duty offered as compensation for the concessions modified or withdrawn.
2. The Turkish Government will, as soon as the revised tariff is put into effect, submit it to the CONTRACTING PARTIES together with the draft new Schedule XXXVII, indicating separately the items to which modifications or withdrawals pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article XXVIII refer and the concessions which it has applied as compensation for such modifications and withdrawals.
3. The Turkish Government will promptly thereafter enter into negotiations or consultations with interested contracting parties pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article XXVIII.
4. The negotiations and consultations referred to in paragraph 3 above shall relate to the concessions provisionally offered as compensation for the modifications and withdrawals and to any requests made by interested contracting parties for other or additional compensation with a view to reaching a satisfactory adjustment consistent with the requirements of paragraph 2 of Article XXVIII.
5. The negotiations or consultations mentioned above shall be completed before the end of the eighteenth session.
6. Pending the entry into force of the results of such negotiations, the other contracting parties will be free to suspend concessions initially negotiated with Turkey to the extent that they consider that adequate compensation is not at that time provided by the Turkish Government (subject to the right of any third contracting party having a principal supplying interest or a substantial interest therein to withdraw substantially equivalent concessions initially negotiated with such other contracting parties).
7. Except as may be otherwise provided in the Decision, the negotiations and consultations shall be conducted in conformity with the relevant provisions of Article XXVIII.