

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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CONTRACTING PARTIES
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Agenda Item 2

MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Report by the Director-General

1. You have asked me, Mr. Chairman, to present the results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations to the CONTRACTING PARTIES.
2. These results are contained in a number of documents which have been circulated to all contracting parties, as well as those non-contracting parties who took part in the negotiations, many of whom I am pleased to see in the room today as observers of the Session.
3. I have also issued a report (the so-called Red Book) which contains a record of the developments in the negotiations, the issues that arose and an assessment of the results that have been achieved, insofar as this was possible at the time that the report came out. At its meeting of 22 November 1979, the Council conducted an examination of the relationship between agreements evolved in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the GATT.
4. It is therefore not necessary for me to take up your time with a long statement today: I will limit myself essentially to enumerating the results which are contained in the texts that have emerged in the negotiations although the interrelationships between these texts should also be borne in mind.
5. The results of the negotiations in the tariff field are set out in a number of documents.
6. The following documents are already open for signature:
 - (a) Geneva (1979) Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to which are annexed schedules of (and here I use the order in which their schedules are annexed to the General Agreement), Canada, Czechoslovakia, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United States, Finland, Sweden, Austria, Japan, Spain¹, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Iceland, Argentina, Jamaica, Romania, Hungary and the European Communities.

¹Spanish text

There is also a Declaration by Bulgaria to which is annexed a schedule of tariff concessions by that country.

- (b) Protocol Supplementary to the Geneva (1979) Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to which are annexed schedules of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Peru, Malaysia, Israel, Spain², Ivory Coast, Korea, Egypt, Zaire, European Communities³, Singapore. The schedules of Australia, Canada and India are still subject to verification and finalization.

7. I should also mention three protocols of accession, those of Colombia, of Mexico, and of the Philippines, since the negotiation of these protocols has been closely related to the wider framework of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations. As the CONTRACTING PARTIES are aware, the Philippines have signed their Protocol. The other two protocols will be opened for signature after a decision on them is taken by the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

8. A number of Agreements or Arrangements relating to areas other than tariffs have also emerged from the negotiations and are already open for signature. These are:

- (a) Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (often referred to as the Standards Code).
- (b) Agreement on Government Procurement.
- (c) Agreement on Interpretation and Application of Articles VI, XVI, and XXIII of the General Agreement (dealing with subsidies and countervailing duties).
- (d) Arrangement on Bovine Meat.
- (e) International Dairy Arrangements.
- (f) Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the General Agreement (relating to customs valuation) and the Protocol to this Agreement.
- (g) Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures.
- (h) Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft.
- (i) Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement (which deals with anti-dumping) together with two addenda.

²French text

³Additional concessions

9. A number of texts on which consensus was reached in Group "Framework" are before you and will require action.

10. In the area of safeguards the negotiations did not produce the text of an agreement such as those to which I have just referred. This is an urgent point of great importance on the GATT Work Programme. The GATT Council has agreed that the matter should be referred to the CONTRACTING PARTIES for their consideration on the basis of the text contained in the addendum to its report.

11. The GATT Council has also, in the light of the recommendation in the Trade Negotiations Committee to the CONTRACTING PARTIES to further develop active co-operation in the agricultural sector, requested the Director-General to consult with interested delegations on this matter and to report to the next regular session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The agreement reached in the Council is reflected in its report and was dealt with at your meeting yesterday.

12. This is all I need say, Mr. Chairman, by way of presenting the results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, since as I said at the outset, governments have had an opportunity to familiarize themselves with these already. Before concluding I would like to draw your attention to the discussion on the relationship between agreements evolved in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the GATT which has taken place in the Council and which is dealt with in the addendum to the report of the Council and, in particular, in the annexes to that document which are before you for consideration and approval.