INFORMATION ON MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE
SUBMITTED BY BANGLADESH

Note by the Secretariat

1. This note summarizes the information provided by Bangladesh regarding measures affecting trade in document AG/FOR/BNG/1. As suggested by the Chairman at the meeting in June 1983 (AG/M/2, para. 23), the secretariat has prepared this note to facilitate the discussions in the Committee relating to Exercise A.

2. Information provided by Bangladesh at this stage is not complete in the sense that only 14 CCCN positions have been covered and there is thus no clear indication how the trade in other agricultural products is treated or otherwise influenced.

Measures affecting exports

3. Regarding measures and mechanisms affecting exports (col. 2 to col. 7), the Bangladesh Government has informed that no such measures exist except for non-commercial credit for export of fresh fruits and vegetables (CCCN 07.01, 08.01-08.13) or bank loans at normal commercial interest rates to the growers of betel nuts (08.05) and spices (09.04-09-10). These have, however, not been specifically indicated in the relevant columns. In column 5, an export tax (XTX) has been indicated for two CCCN items i.e. 10.01 and 12.01 under the provisions of Article III and classified under (f).

Measures affecting imports

(i) Tariffs

4. A draft consolidated Schedule for Bangladesh, Schedule LXX, has recently been prepared by the secretariat. It indicates that 36 or more agricultural items are partially or completely bound under the GATT. The Schedule is still subject to verification and acceptance. No reference is made in Bangladesh submission to preferential rates. All the tariff duties have for the time being been classified under (f).
(ii) Other measures

5. Other measures affecting imports into Bangladesh include licensing (L), surcharge (SURCH), State trading (ST), import tax (NTX) and sanitary measures (SN).

6. Licensing under Art. XVIII has been indicated for two items (i.e., 01.01 and 02.01) at the four-digit level and classified under (f).

7. Import surcharges have been shown for four CCCN positions and sub-positions under Art. III again with (f) classification (i.e. 02.01, 04.02, 15.02, 15.07 (k) and (h)).

8. State trading exists for 4 items 04.02 (50% in private sector and 50% in public sector) and 12.01, ex 15.02, ex 15.07, under Art. XVII and classified as (f).

9. Sanitary requirements under Art. XX(b) and classified under (a) are reported to exist for one CCCN position (i.e., palm oil).

10. Import taxes are applied to four items (i.e. 10..01, 15.02, 15.07 (k) and classified under (f) with reference to Article III.

11. An import permit fee is charged for three items (i.e., 15.02, 15.07 (k) and 15.07 (h)) if imported under wage earner's scheme with reference to (f).

12. Three items are shown to be banned (i.e., 04.03, 04.04, 17.01) and classified under the (f) symbol.

Summary

No summary indication of the different classifying criteria is attempted at this stage in view of the still limited coverage of the Bangladesh submission.