The GATT Intersessional Committee met on Tuesday, 6 August to consider whether the measures taken by the Government of India - namely, the changes in import restrictions introduced on 1 July - constitute a substantial intensification of import restrictions imposed for balance-of-payments reasons under the terms of Article XII: 4(b). Under the GATT a government is required to consult with the Contracting Parties as a whole if it substantially intensifies its restrictions.

The Intersessional Committee took note of the changes in import restrictions introduced by the Government of India, considered that these constituted a substantial intensification and initiated the consultation.

The Indian representative, Mr. K. Padmanabhan, supplied certain information on the nature of India's balance-of-payments difficulties and the scope and nature of the measures taken.

In view of the fact that, at this stage, the Indian delegation was not in a position to engage in full scale discussions, the Committee decided to continue the consultation in the autumn, at the Twelfth Session of the Contracting Parties.

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