FRANCE EXTENDS LIBERALIZATION OF IMPORTS TO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE OEEC AND DOLLAR AREAS

The GATT secretariat has been informed by the French authorities of the suppression of all quantitative import restrictions on a long list of products. This list, which was published in the French Journal Officiel of 24 October 1959, applies to imports from countries which are not included in the OEEC group and which are not in the dollar area.

Among the countries to which this newly liberalized list applies are Australia, Burma, Brazil, Ceylon, Chile, Cuba, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Dominican Republic, the Union of South Africa and Uruguay. Czechoslovakia is not included.

The objective of this measure is to widen the liberalization of imports already accorded by France to OEEC and dollar area countries and thus to diminish the element of discrimination, which has hitherto been applied. The total number of products (tariff items) included in the new list is about 650.

The list includes automobiles, motor cycles and spare parts, railroad rolling stock, machine tools, business supplies, typewriters and calculating machines, phonographs and tape recorders, art objects, shoes, sporting goods, hunting and fishing equipment, scientific apparatus and cinema film.

The complete list of tariff items included in the above measure will be issued as an addendum to this release.

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