EXTENSIVE LIBERALIZATION OF IMPORTS BY AUSTRIA

Further to the dollar liberalization measures mentioned in GATT Liberalization Communiqué No. 34 of 28 July, the Austrian Government has informed the GATT secretariat of a recent decision of the Austrian Federal Government to liberalize imports of a considerable number of goods. By this decision quantitative restrictions were removed for some 287 tariff items or sub-items which thus became freely importable from all countries contracting parties to GATT, with the exception of Cuba, Czechoslovakia and Japan.

This measure of liberalization was brought into force on 15 July 1960. The 287 items include: canned fish and fish preparations, coffee, rice, copra, linseed, olive, castor and certain other oils, fruit juices, cognac and whiskey, metallic minerals, a wide range of chemicals, certain pharmaceutical products, dyes and colours, certain plastic goods, certain cork and wood products, books and periodicals, coir yarn, cord and rope, hydraulic cement, cement and asphalt products, glassware, calculating and other office machines, spark plugs, certain electric and electronic goods, electronic and cathode tubes, motor vehicles, and optical, photographic and cinematographic equipment.

The Austrian Government has deposited with the GATT secretariat a complete cumulative list of freed imports. Apart from the 287 newly-added items mentioned above, for which the liberalization is for the sources of supply defined above, this list contains a great number of items ("free-list items") which can be imported free of restrictions from any source.

END