Publication of Report of Committee II on the Consultation with the European Economic Community on Changes in Agricultural Policy of Member States

The GATT secretariat has published as a brochure, the Report of Committee II of the Trade Expansion Programme on its consultation with the European Economic Community to examine the changes in the agricultural policy of the EEC member States. These changes were a consequence of the coming into effect of the Common Agricultural Policy of the Community, in January 1962.

The texts of the Basic Regulations of the Common Agricultural Policy in respect of six groups of products, namely, cereals, pig meat, eggs, poultry, fruit and vegetables and wine had been made available to the Committee (the examination of the policy in respect of wine was postponed). The Report sets out, first, the technical discussion in the Committee on each group and this is followed by the general policy discussion. In the concluding comments the views of the exporting members of the Committee and of the Community regarding certain fundamental elements of the Common Agricultural Policy and its possible effects on world trade are set out. This was the first occasion on which a thorough discussion of the Common Agricultural Policy took place in an international forum.

In view of the complexity of the various regulations and of the relevant decisions taken by the EEC and by the member States, a description of the Common Agricultural Policy, for the first five groups of products, was prepared by the GATT secretariat and is contained in this brochure. This section, which occupies some fifty pages, provides a detailed factual description of the regulations and the relevant decisions. This exercise was regarded by the Contracting Parties as a most valuable guide towards elucidating a highly complex matter, which is of considerable interest at the present time to governments and to all who are following closely the development of European integration in the field of agriculture.

The Report of Committee II on its consultation with the EEC was discussed by the Contracting Parties at their twentieth session in November 1962 (for a summary of the discussion, see press release GATT/726) and was derestricted at the end of the session.

1GATT Programme for Expansion of International Trade. Trade in Agricultural Products, Report of Committee II on the Consultation with the European Economic Community. Price $1.50 Sw.Fr.6.--. Sales No.: GATT/1962-6.

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