AUSTRIA REMOVES RESTRICTIONS ON PRODUCTS OF EXPORT INTEREST TO LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

When the Ministers, in May 1963, adopted the GATT Programme of Action for the removal of obstacles to the expansion of trade of the less-developed countries an Action Committee was set up to assist the Contracting Parties to carry out the Programme. One element of the Programme consists of consultations with individual industrialized countries concerning the removal of the remaining quantitative restrictions which they maintain on products of special export interest to less-developed countries. Consultations of this type have been held with a number of industrialized countries, including Austria. These consultations were held in a Sub-Committee of the Action Committee.

At the consultation held in December 1963 the Austrian delegation stated that several restrictions would be removed on 1 January 1964 and this undertaking was fulfilled.

On several other quantitative restrictions the Austrian delegation stated that these would be removed in the course of 1964. The Austrian authorities have now informed the GATT secretariat that restrictions on the following products, of special export interest to less-developed countries, were removed on 1 June 1964: coir manufactures; electric motors; vegetable oils. These products are consequently no longer subject to quantitative restrictions in Austria.

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