CZECHOSLOVAKIA SUSPENDS TARIFFS ON PRODUCTS OF SPECIAL EXPORT INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Czechoslovak authorities have informed the Executive Secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that new measures of liberalization have been taken to implement the GATT Action Programme for the expansion of trade of the developing countries.

In December 1963, Czechoslovakia suspended tariffs on a number of imported products falling within three categories:

- raw materials and agricultural products: cocoa beans, coffee, tea, tobacco, certain vegetables, rice, oilseeds, vegetable oil, meat and lead;
- semi-processed items such as cotton yarns, jute yarns, leather, various tanning extracts and mica-slabs;
- finished products and processed foodstuffs such as tyres and tubes, tinned or otherwise prepared fish, fruits, meat and other foodstuffs.

The Czechoslovak authorities point out that these liberalization measures are accompanied by a series of measures in the field of planning which are similarly aimed at expanding exports from developing countries to Czechoslovakia. It is anticipated that as a result of this action the total turnover of Czechoslovakia's trade with developing countries will approximately double by 1970, reaching a value of US$900 million.

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