GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

Integrated Data Base

PROGRAMME FOR THE SEMINAR/WORKSHOP FOR TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM NATIONAL CAPITALS

Time and place: the week beginning 6 June 1988, Room E of GATT headquarters in the Centre William Rappard, Geneva.

Main Topic: the data requirements and the format of submissions for the GATT Integrated Data Base.*

Basic documentation: GATT Secretariat documents IDB/W/1, IDB/W/2, IDB/W/3 and IDB/Q/1.

Languages: simultaneous interpretation between English, French and Spanish.

Purpose and goals:

(1) To give the GATT Secretariat staff an opportunity:

- to explain in detail to specialists from capitals what the Secretariat plans to do;

- to explain to specialists from capitals what they are expected to do;

- to answer questions and help specialists from capitals find solutions to problems.

(2) To give specialists from capitals an opportunity:

- to exchange information with one another and with the Secretariat based on experience in dealing with the kinds of problems that are involved in supplying the necessary import, tariff and QR data in the required format; participants from contracting parties which will be submitting these data to the Secretariat for the first time will have the opportunity to exchange views with participants who have experience in preparing and submitting such data;

- to put questions to the Secretariat staff members responsible for the technical development of the Integrated Data Base;

* There are two basic aspects to the Integrated Data Base: the input (contents, and the format in which data are to be submitted) and the output (the nature of the information that will be available and the ways in which it will be provided - for example, on diskettes, on magnetic tape and so forth). Although this seminar/workshop will focus on the first aspect, there will be an introductory discussion of the second aspect on the last day of the seminar/workshop.

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- to inform the Secretariat of the current status of procedures in their respective national capitals, and to indicate what is needed in order to meet the April 1989 target for the first submission of data;

- to make suggestions to the Secretariat concerning possible modifications in the proposed data contents and/or format of the submissions (any suggestions made in this context would be referred to the Informal Advisory Group for approval).

- to make initial suggestions to the Secretariat concerning their likely output requirements (suggestions will be conveyed to the Informal Advisory group).

SCHEDULE

MONDAY 6 JUNE

10:00-10:30 Registration, and tea and coffee
10:30-11:00 Welcoming remarks by the Director General and Mr. M.G. Mathur, Deputy Director-General
11:00-13:00 General description of the IDB:
  - Context of the decision taken by the Council
  - Type of information to be included
  - Overall volume of information to be stored in the IDB
  - Computer facilities used by the Secretariat
  - Staff involved in the exercise
  - Time schedule for the setting up of the IDB
13:00-14:30 Lunch
14:30-15:45 Overview of the project implementation
  - Files to be prepared by the delegations
  - Controls and conversions made by the Secretariat
  - The data base design
  - How the IDB information could be made available to users
  - Possibilities for technical assistance by the Secretariat
15:45-16:00 Tea and coffee
16:00-17:30 Discussion continues
18:00 Salle des Pas Perdus: GATT Secretariat cocktail party for participants in the seminar/workshop
TUESDAY JUNE 7

09:30-10:45 Discussion of data base input
(see pp.4-24 of IDB/W/2).
10:45-11:00 Tea and coffee
11:00-13:00 Discussion continues
13:00-14:30 Lunch
14:30-15:45 Discussion continues
15:45-16:00 Tea and coffee
16:00-17:30 Discussion continues

WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE

09:30-10:45 Discussion of formats for data submission
(see IDB/W/1)
10:45-11:00 Tea and coffee
11:00-13:00 Discussion continues

Remainder of afternoon is free for informal discussions among participants and with Secretariat staff.

THURSDAY JUNE 9

09:30-10:45 Questions and answers concerning IDB/W/1 and IDB/W/2 (pp.4-24).
10:45-11:00 Tea and coffee
11:00-13:00 Discussion continues
13:00-14:30 Lunch
14:30-15:45 Discussion of data base considerations
(see pp.25-39 of IDB/W/2)
15:45-16:00 Tea and coffee
16:00-17:30 Discussion continues

FRIDAY JUNE 10

09:30-10:45 First discussion of output requirements and general review of points covered during the seminar/workshop.
10:45-11:00 Tea and coffee
11:00-13:00 Discussion continues

Friday afternoon: provided that it is possible to observe the schedule outlined above, it will not be necessary to hold a formal session on Friday afternoon. However, participants are requested to keep the afternoon available in case it is not possible to complete the work by 13:00.