GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES
Tokyo, commencing 26 October 1959

ADVANCE AGENDA

According to the records of the secretariat, the following items are to be included in the provisional agenda for the fifteenth session. Contracting parties wishing to propose additional items are requested to submit their proposals and supporting documents by 14 September in accordance with rule 2 of the rules of procedure.

Contracting parties will be informed by airgram by 15 August whether or not the Member States of the European Economic Community will be submitting a report, pursuant to Article XXIV:7(a) for consideration at the fifteenth session. This arrangement has been made in order that, in the event that no report is being submitted by the Member States, any contracting party so wishing will have an opportunity to request the inclusion of an item relating to the Rome Treaty on the agenda for the session.

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ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

PROGRAMME FOR EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The three Committees will meet again before the session. Committee II will meet during the session to carry out consultations with Burma, Ceylon, Chile, Indonesia, Malaya and Pakistan.

BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

(a) Reports by the Committee on consultations carried out since the fourteenth session under Article XII:4(b) and Article XIV:1(g). (Consultations in June/July with Austria (L/1018), Denmark (L/1021), Finland (L/1020), Ghana (L/1019) and in October with Australia, Italy, Japan, Malaya, Norway, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Sweden.)

(b) Tenth Annual Report under Article XIV:1(g).

(c) Arrangements for consultations under Articles XII:4(b), XIV:1(g) and XVIII:12(b) in 1960.

GERMAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS: CONSULTATION UNDER DECISION OF 30 MAY 1959

In accordance with paragraph (3) of the Decision (L/1013) the Federal Republic will consult with the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the fifteenth session regarding the application of the Decision and will report on the progress achieved in the relaxation or elimination of the restrictions.

BELGIAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

Report by Belgium under Decision of 3 December 1955 (BISD, 4th Supplement, p.22)

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

Report by the United States under Decision of 5 March 1955 (BISD, 3rd Supplement, p.32)

ARTICLE XVIII

Annual review of measures applied pursuant to Sections C and D

PERUVIAN IMPORT CHARGES

Report by the Government of Peru and consultation pursuant to paragraph 4 of the Decision of 21 November 1958 (BISD, 7th Supplement, p.37)

NICARAGUAN IMPORT DUTIES (L/983)

BRAZIL TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

Consideration of the reports submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 of the Decision of 16 November 1956 (BISD, 5th Supplement, p.38)

RHODESIA AND NYASALAND/ AUSTRALIA TRADE AGREEMENT

Report by the Governments of the Federation and Australia under the Decisions of 3 December 1955, 20 November 1958 and 29 May 1959. A report by Australia has been distributed (L/1009)

AUSTRALIAN WAIVER FOR PRODUCTS OF PAPUA - NEW GUINEA

Report by Australia under Decision of 24 October 1953 (BISD, 2nd Supplement, p.18)
ITALIAN WAIVER FOR PRODUCTS OF LIBYA

Reports by Italy and Libya under Decision of 20 November 1958
(BISD, 7th Supplement, p.34)

FRANCO-GERMAN TRADE WITH THE SAAR

Reports by France and Germany under Decision of 22 November 1957
(BISD, 6th Supplement, p.30)

UNITED KINGDOM WAIVER FROM ARTICLE I

Report by the United Kingdom under Decision of 24 October 1953
(BISD, 2nd Supplement, p.20)

UNITED KINGDOM WAIVER FOR DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

Report by the United Kingdom under Decision of 5 March 1955
(BISD, 3rd Supplement, p.21)

THE IMPACT OF COMMODITY PROBLEMS UPON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The Working Party appointed at the thirteenth session (L/948) will meet early in the session and will submit a report to provide a basis for the review under paragraph 1 of the Resolution of 17 November 1956 (ref. BISD, 5th Supplement, p.26 and 7th Supplement, p.43).

DISPOSAL OF COMMODITY SURPLUSES: Experience under the Resolution of 4 March 1955

It was decided at the thirteenth session to maintain this item on the agenda (SR.13/10).

SUBSIDIES: ARTICLE XVI: 4

It was agreed at the fourteenth session that the question of reaching agreement to abolish remaining subsidies, on products other than primary products, or, alternatively, to extend further the validity of the standstill Declaration of 30 November 1957, would be considered at the fifteenth session (SR.14/2). (The validity of the Declaration will expire on 31 December 1959)

NICARAGUA-EL SALVADOR FREE-TRADE AREA

Eighth annual report by Nicaragua
FACILITIES FOR TEMPORARY ADMISSION OF PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT AND PACKING MATERIALS (L/860)

Report on work done by international bodies (SR.14/7)

NATIONALITY OF IMPORTED GOODS

At the thirteenth session it was agreed to defer consideration of this item until 1959 (SR.13/6).

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XXXV TO JAPAN

At the fourteenth session it was agreed that this question be included in the agenda for the fifteenth session (SR.14/7).

RELATIONS WITH POLAND

The Working Party appointed at the fourteenth session (SR.14/6 and W.14/19) will meet on 31 August and will submit a report.

STATUS OF TUNISIA

Consideration of the position of Tunisia pursuant to the Recommendation of 22 November 1957 (BISD, 6th Supplement, p.10) as amended by the Decision of 25 May 1959.

STATUS OF GUINEA

At the fourteenth session (SR.14/10) the Executive Secretary was authorized to conduct, with Guinea and France, the consultations provided for in the procedures relating to Article XXVII:5(c) (BISD, 6th Supplement, p.11). The Executive Secretary will report.

STATUS OF AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOLS

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

A report will be submitted by the Executive Secretary.

FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

(a) Audited accounts for 1958
(b) Financing of 1959 Budget  Documents will be distributed
(c) Budget estimates for 1960
(d) Staff and financial regulations  The Executive Secretary will report.
NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN OF IOCICA

The Chairman's term of office expires during the session.

ELECTION OF INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Under rule 10 of the rules of procedure (BISD, 7th Supplement, p.7) a chairman and two vice-chairmen are to be elected for the ensuing year.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS FOR 1960