STATE TRADING

Notifications Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

Addendum

POLAND

The Government of Poland has informed the secretariat that, within the framework of the existing political and economic system, State trading in the sense of Article XVII does not exist in the Polish People's Republic. A communication from the Government of Poland for the information of the CONTRACTING PARTIES is contained in the Annex to this document.
ANNEX

The following communication has been received from the permanent representation of the Polish People's Republic.

1. Within the framework of the existing political and economic system there is no State trading in the Polish People's Republic in the sense of Article XVII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). There is, however, State monopoly for foreign trade which results mainly from the socialist ownership of means of production.

2. It is worth mentioning that all these problems have been already discussed in connexion with Poland's request to accede to GATT. In the Report of the Working Party on Trade with Poland (see L/2806 of 23 June 1967) it has been stated that:

"The Working Party noted that a thorough examination of the Polish foreign trade system had taken place in connexion with the discussions leading to the 1959 Declaration on Relations with Poland. In the subsequent annual reviews under the Declaration the development of trade between Poland and the contracting parties had been examined.

"During the meeting the Polish delegation replied to, or commented on, various questions put to it by members of the Working Party, and, at their request, supplied supplementary information.

"The Working Party noted that the foreign trade of Poland was conducted mainly by State enterprises and that the Foreign Trade Plan rather than the customs tariff was the effective instrument of Poland's commercial policy.

"It was agreed that in view of the nature of the foreign trade system of Poland its main concession in the negotiations for its accession to the General Agreement would be commitments relating to an annual increase in the value of its imports from contracting parties."
"Having carried out the examination of the foreign trade régime of Poland and in the light of the assurances given by the representative of Poland, the Working Party recommends that the contracting parties apply the General Agreement to their relations with Poland in accordance with the terms and conditions of the draft Protocol for the Accession of Poland drawn up by the Working Party and annexed to this report, on the understanding that a reciprocal and mutually advantageous basis would thereby be afforded for the continuing evolution of trading relations between Poland and the contracting parties.

"For this purpose the Working Party has prepared a draft Decision attached to this report, on the accession of Poland and the draft Protocol referred to above."

3. As it is known, in 1967 Poland became one of the contracting parties to GATT according to recommendation of the Working Party on Trade with Poland pursuant to Article XXXIII of GATT on the basis of provisions agreed upon and included in the Protocol.

Ever since its accession to GATT Poland's respective commitments have been reviewed every year and no country has ever claimed that domestic economic conditions in Poland are harmful to its trade interests in the Polish market.

This letter is a mere recollection of facts accepted already by contracting parties and it should not be interpreted as a notification pursuant to Article XVII of GATT (State Trading). The situation to which this article refers, as it was mentioned above, does not apply to the political and economic system of Poland.

4. In Poland, the formulation "planned foreign trade" means the export and import of goods by those who perform economic tasks under national economic plans on the basis of contracts concluded with foreign partners.

Those who perform such tasks in Poland, are mostly foreign trade enterprises subordinated directly to the Minister of Foreign Trade or acting in the sphere of foreign trade in accordance with authorization of this Minister.

Polish foreign trade enterprises are separated from the State from the economic, financial and legal point of view and have juridical personality. They run their trading business on their own account. They are not liable for any obligations of the State and the latter is not liable for obligations of foreign trade enterprises either. In their business activity they direct themselves by motives of commercial character.

5. For the information of contracting parties a list of Polish foreign trade enterprises is enclosed herewith.
LIST OF POLISH FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISES

- AGROS
  Warszawa, Zurawia 32/34

- ANIMEX
  Warszawa, Pulawska 14

- BALTONA
  Gdynia, Pulaskiego 6

- CENTROZAP
  Katowice, Ligonia 7

- DAL
  Warszawa, Frascati 2

- ELEKTRIM
  Warszawa, Czackiego 15/17

- IMPEXMETAL
  Warszawa, Wilcza 50/52

- MINEX
  Warszawa, Krakowskie Przedmieście 79

- PAGED
  Warszawa, Plac Trzech Krzyży 18

- POLIMEX-CEKOP
  Warszawa, Czackiego 7/9

- POLSERVICE
  Warszawa, Poznańska 15

- ROLIMPEX
  Warszawa, Al Jerozolimskie 44

- UNIVERSAL
  Warszawa, Al Jerozolimskie 44

- VARI MEX
  Warszawa, Wilcza 50/52

- TORIMEX
  Warszawa, Zurawia 32/34

- BUDIMEX
  Warszawa, Zurawia 3/5

- CIECH
  Warszawa, Jasna 12

- TEXTILIMPEX
  Łódź, Sienkiewicza 3/8

- SKÓRIMPEX
  Łódź, 22-Lipca 74
- H. CEGIELSKI
  Poznań, Dzierzyńskiego 223-229
- CENTROMOR
  Gdańsk, Okopowa 7
- KOLMEX
  Warszawa, Mokotowska 49
- STALEXPORT
  Katowice, Plebiscytowa 36
- MOTOIMPORT-AGROMET
  Warszawa, Przemysłowa 26
- BUMAR
  Warszawa, Kolejowa 57
- METALEXPORT
  Warszawa, Mokotowska 49
- METRONEX
  Warszawa, Al. Jerozolimskie 44
- POL-MOT
  Warszawa, Stalingradzka 23
- PEZETEL
  Warszawa, Przemysłowa 26
- NAVIMOR
  Gdańsk
- RYBEX
  Szczecin, Odrowąża 1
- PAGED-MEBLE
  Warszawa, Plac Trzech Krzyży 18
- ARS POLONA - RUCH
  Warszawa, Krakowskie Przedmieście 7
- DESA
  Warszawa, Al. Jerozolimskie 2
- FILM-POLSKI
  Warszawa, Mazowiecka 6/8
- COOPEXIM-CEPELIA
  Warszawa, Żurawia 4
- POLCOOP
  Warszawa, Kopernika 30
- HORTEX
  Warszawa, Warecka 11a
- UNITRA
  Warszawa, Al. Jerozolimskie 44
Agencies representing foreign firms in Poland

- MACIEJ CZARNECKI and Co. Ltd.
  Commercial and Agents House
  Warszawa, Marszalkowska 87

- DYNAMO Co. Ltd.
  Import-Export Commercial House
  Warszawa, Al. I Armii Wojska Polskiego 3

- EXIMPOL Co. Ltd.
  International Trading Company
  Warszawa, Poznańska 38

- MUNDIAL Co. Ltd.
  Export-Import Company
  Warszawa, Tatrzańska 38

- POLCOMEX S.A.
  Representation of Foreign Firms
  Warszawa, Świetokrzyska 32

- TIMEX Sp. S.A.
  Import-Export
  Warszawa, Al. I Armii Wojska Polskiego 3

- TRANSACTOR S.A.
  Commercial House
  Warszawa, Olszewska 8

- UNITEX S.A.
  Import-Export
  Warszawa, Hibnera 5.