GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

Trade Agreement with Australia

The following communications have been received from the Governments of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and Australia:

Letter from the Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, dated 10 August:

"I have the honour to advise you that a Trade Agreement between Australia and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was signed in Salisbury on 30 June, and came into effect on 1 July 1955. It will replace the Australia-Southern Rhodesia Trade Agreement of 1941 which provided for exchange of preferential tariff concessions on certain products and will also replace those provisions of United Kingdom-Australia Trade Agreement of 1932 which relate to exchange of tariff preferences between Australia and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

"Seventy five copies of the Federal Government Notice promulgating the Agreement are attached, for distribution to contracting parties."

"Under the new Agreement Australia will be granted duty-free entry into the Federation of twelve items, all of which are already duty-free under Column C of the Federal Tariff, and the chief of which are wheat and preserved milk. Some eighty further items and sub-items will be admitted into the Federation at either the Column C rate less 2½ per cent ad valorem, the Column D rate, or the Column D rate less one-tenth thereof. Imports of these goods from Australia are small in value.

"None of the concessions above will apply to Australian goods imported into the Congo Basin area of the Federation; such goods will pay the full Column C rate of duty.

"Total Federal imports of the goods subject to concessions in the new Agreement were, in 1954, valued at less than Southern Rhodesia's 1953 imports of Australian products enjoying concessions under the 1941 Australian-Southern Rhodesia Trade Agreement."

The text of the Agreement is reproduced in the Annex. A single copy of the original English text of the Agreement, including the Annexures, is distributed with this document to each contracting party, and a further copy will be available for each delegation attending the Tenth Session."
Letter from the Government of Australia, dated 10 August:

"A Trade Agreement between Australia and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was signed in Salisbury on 30 June. It will replace the Australia-Southern Rhodesia Trade Agreement of 1941 which provided for the exchange of preferential tariff concessions on certain products. It will also replace those provisions of the United Kingdom – Australia Trade Agreement of 1932 which relate to the exchange of tariff preferences between Australia and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

"Under the new agreement unmanufactured tobacco originating in the Federation will be admitted into Australia at the British Preferential Tariff rate less 9d per lb. This concession was previously extended to Southern Rhodesia only. In 1953/54, 25 per cent of Australia's imports of unmanufactured tobacco came from Southern Rhodesia. Only negligible quantities were imported from Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

"The only other preferential tariff concessions by Australia are the extension of the British Preferential Tariff rates of duty to fruit juices, citrus essential oils and beeswax originating in the Federation. These preferences were previously accorded to Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland but not to Southern Rhodesia. Imports of these goods from the Federation are small in value.

"Preferential Tariff concessions on goods classifiable under a wide range of items in the Australian Customs Tariff which are extended to British non-self governing colonies will be cancelled in respect of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland in view of their new status as part of the Federation."
Her Majesty's Governments in the Commonwealth of Australia and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, being desirous of improving and extending the commercial relations existing between their respective countries, have agreed as follows:

Article 1
Definitions

In this Agreement, unless inconsistent with the context:

"Australia" means the Commonwealth of Australia;

"Conventional Area" means that portion of the Federation which is included within the basin of the Congo and its outlets according to the definition of such basin contained in Chapter I, Article 1, of the General Act of the Conference of Berlin relative to the development of trade and civilization in Africa signed in Berlin on 26 February 1885;

"Federation" means the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland;

"goods grown or produced in Australia" means goods wholly grown or produced in Australia;

"goods manufactured in Australia" means goods subjected to a final process of manufacture in Australia and containing not less than the "specified country content" as described in Section 76 of the Customs and Excise Act, 1955, of the Federation;

"goods grown or produced in the Federation" means goods wholly grown or produced in the Federation;

"goods manufactured in the Federation" means goods conforming in respect of the proportion of manufacture in the Federation contained in such goods with the laws or regulations in force from time to time in Australia applicable to such goods when imported under the British Preferential Tariff of Australia.

Article 2

The goods enumerated in Annexure 1, when grown, produced or manufactured in Australia, shall, in accordance with the provisions of that Annexure, on entry for consumption in the Federation (excluding the Conventional Area), be admitted free of duty or at the rates of duty specified in that Annexure, as the case may be.
Article 3

The goods enumerated in Annexure II, when grown, produced or manufactured in the Federation, shall, in accordance with the provisions of that Annexure, on importation into Australia, be admitted free of Primage Duty or at the rates of Customs Duty and Primage Duty specified in that Annexure, as the case may be.

Article 4

In respect of the goods enumerated in Annexure III the Government of the Federation agrees that the differences between the rates of duty in Columns B and C, and Columns B and D, of the Customs Tariff of the Federation at the date of this Agreement, shall not be reduced except after consultation with the Government of Australia.

Article 5

(1) The parties to this Agreement shall consult together from time to time, at intervals of not more than two years, for the purpose of reviewing the operation of the Agreement.

(2) If a party should consider that circumstances have arisen which necessitate a variation in the terms of the Agreement any proposal so to vary those terms shall form the subject of consultation between the parties.

Article 6

(1) This Agreement shall be brought into force on a date to be agreed upon between the parties, subject to the respective laws of the parties relating to ratification of such agreements.

(2) The Agreement shall remain in force for a period of three years from the date agreed upon between the parties in terms of paragraph (1) of this Article and, unless notice of termination shall have been given by either party to the Agreement to the other six months before the expiry of that period, shall thereafter remain in force until the expiry of six months from the date on which notice of termination is given:

Provided that no such notice shall be given until the parties have consulted together with a view to determining whether any adjustment or modification is acceptable in furtherance of the objectives of the Agreement.

Signed at Salisbury this thirtieth day of June, 1955.