SUBSIDIES

Notifications submitted under Article XVI

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AUSTRIA

Notification of 26 September 1956

Austria does not grant any subsidies either for exports or for imports such as would fall within the scope of Article XVI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

INDONESIA

Supplementary Notification of the Government of Indonesia of 21 September 1956

"Summary of the measures taken by the Government of Indonesia, at the instigation of the Monetary Board, in an effort to render exports more competitive in world trade by giving the necessary aid to exporters.

Additional Export Duty

"The so-called 'strong products' have been temporarily exempted from the additional export duty as from 24 October 1955.

Note: The additional export duty was imposed on 'strong products' from 4 February 1952 and lately only on copra (5 per cent ad valorem), pepper (5 per cent ad valorem) and coffee (5 per cent ad valorem).-
General Export Duty

"As from 1 February 1949 a General Export Duty at a rate of 8 per cent ad valorem (f.o.b. value) was levied on all products exported from Indonesia except rubber for which a special tariff was created on a 'sliding scale' basis. However the relative ordinance, inter alia, leaves room for lowering the tariff if the market position of a product makes such necessary. In the case of a so-called 'weak product', the levying of duties can be suspended temporarily. The Government, in the course of years, has made use of this temporary suspension provision in several cases. As from 24 October 1955 the rate of duty was lowered for the following products:

Copra ...................... from 8 per cent to 3 per cent ad val.
Coffee ...................... " 8 " " 3 " " " " " "
Palmoil & Palmkernels ...... " 8 " " free
Tobacco ..................... " 8 " " free
Pepper ...................... " 8 " " free

Note: At present the General Export Duty is levied only on: tin (8 per cent ad valorem), oil-products (4 per cent ad valorem), copra (3 per cent ad valorem), coffee (3 per cent ad valorem) and rubber (sliding-scale).

Subsidies

"As from 24 October 1955 an export premium is payable on the exportation of all products on which no export duty is levied ('weak products') except palmoil, palmkernels and tobacco.

"The background for this assistance is that the cost-price of these products is relatively high in comparison with the current low prices on the world market, so that a serious stagnation threatened Indonesian exports. The premium is payable to the exporter of these products on the basis of a fixed percentage of the f.o.b. value of the exported products in terms of rupiahs.

Pepper ...................... premium 5 per cent
All other products ........ premium 1C per cent

"However for some products this incentive appeared to be insufficient as a result of which the rate of the premium was raised in the following cases:

Vegetable fibres ........... from 1C per cent to 25 per cent, as from 1 March 1956
Kapok ....................... from 1C per cent to 15 per cent, as from 1C March 1956
Tea ......................... from 10 per cent to 20 per cent, as from 5 May 1956.
"In the meantime it appeared that the competitive position of a special kind of tobacco, namely 'Vorstenlanden', which is grown mostly in the area of Jogjakarta and Surakarta on the isle of Java, had deteriorated seriously. In connexion herewith the premium of 10 per cent was also granted to the exportation of tobacco 'Vorstenlanden' derived from the crop of the year 1956/57 and eventually from subsequent years.

"This summary outlines the situation as it stood on 1 August 1956. At this stage, it is, as may be understood, too early to produce further information about the results of the measures recently taken to stimulate exports."

NETHERLANDS

Notification of 27 September 1956

A. Netherlands

In 1955 a subsidy on milk was granted of 3.3 cents per litre up to the amount of 60,000,000 guilders.

B. Overseas Parts of the Realm

In Netherlands New Guinea, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles no subsidies are granted of which the indirect effect is to increase exports or reduce imports.

PAKISTAN

Notification of 9 October 1956

Pakistan has no subsidies to report under Article XVI of the General Agreement.

TURKEY

Notification of 17 September 1956

No new measures falling within the scope of Article XVI have been taken since the notification of 14 October 1955.