Documentation as of 20 September 1957

1. **The Text of the Treaty (together with the Annexes and Protocols)**

The official text of the Treaty (in French) and a provisional translation in English were distributed to contracting parties on 24 April 1957 (L/626). The final English translation was distributed on 28 August (L/626/Add.1).

2. **Discussion of the Treaty by the Intersessional Committee**

The discussions at the meeting of the Committee on 24 to 27 April were recorded at greater length than usual in IC/SR.30. The procedures agreed upon by the Committee for further discussion of this matter are recorded on page 40 of that document.

3. **Memorandum by the Interim Committee for the Common Market**

At the meeting in April, the Chairman of the Interim Committee for the Common Market advised that the Six Member Governments were preparing a memorandum for submission to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. This memorandum which was distributed on 11 June 1957 (L/637)\(^1\) sets out the important aspects of the Treaty particularly in relation to the provisions of the General Agreement. This memorandum contains the following sections:

   I. **GENERAL**

   II. **Provisions of the Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community Governing Community Trade and Trade with Third Countries**

   A. **Trade as between Member States**

      (a) Customs duties

      (b) Quantitative restrictions

      (c) Special problems

   B. **Trade with third countries**

      (a) Level of the common tariff

      (b) The progressive bringing of national tariffs into line with the common tariffs

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\(^1\)The English translation of the memorandum has been revised - L/637/Rev.1.

Spec/112/57
The granting of tariff quotas at reduced rates of duty or duty-free

Modifications of the common customs tariff

- Quantitative restrictions

III. THE ASSOCIATION OF THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WITH THE COMMON MARKET

IV. CONCLUSIONS

4. Questions submitted to the Interim Committee and the answers

The "consolidated" questions submitted to the Interim Committee on behalf of contracting parties and the answers furnished by the Committee were distributed on 2 August (L/656). The questions and answers are arranged under the following headings:

I. The Transitional Period

II. The Elimination of Customs Duties between Member States

III. The Common Tariff and Negotiations on GATT Concessions

IV. Elimination of Quantitative Restrictions between Member States

V. Agriculture

VI. Balance of Payments

VII. Commercial Policy

VIII. Overseas Countries and Territories

IX. Article 234

X. Miscellaneous Questions

5. The Specimen Tariff

The Interim Committee for the Common Market is furnishing copies of a "specimen" of the Common Tariff to be adopted by the Six Member States. It is expected that these will be available for distribution to contracting parties next week. This specimen tariff contains four columns - one for Benelux, France, Germany and Italy - and a fifth column indicating the proposed rate of the Common Tariff. This specimen is described as follows:
"1. The present document includes those products which may be considered as being the most representative items of trade between the Member States of the European Economic Community and third countries which are contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. In preparing it, due regard was had, on the one hand, to the numerous instances of specialization to be found in the four tariffs, and, on the other hand, to the provisions of Article 19 of the Treaty.

"2. The combination, and frequently the juxtaposition of different specializations, as well as the need to arrive at an arithmetical average of the duties under the four tariffs, have led to a tariff structure which is too complicated and which will have to be adapted to the needs of trade and the various administrations. Therefore, while the level of the duties mentioned in the Specimen Tariff will remain unchanged, any necessary adjustments will be made to the rates and the text of the sub-items."