RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

Questions for Submission to Government of Poland

LIST F

1. Who makes the decision as to what is to be imported and what is the basis for the decision?

2. What "reforms" are contemplated in administrative procedures regarding trade - particularly with respect to internal pricing? (April 22 statement of Vice Minister of Foreign Trade).

3. Will the new pricing system measure costs of production?

4. Can Poland prove costs from its accounting system?

5. What are the principles underlying the pricing of import goods when sold in domestic markets?

6. What types of mark-up are used for imported goods?

7. Are imported goods obtained from trade with Western countries and those obtained from Eastern countries priced by the same method for sale in domestic markets?

8. Could the system of trade result in dumping through switch deals?

9. Are price mark-ups regarded as taxes or are they considered to be profits?

10. How are receipts from price mark-ups accounted for in the budget?

11. Are receipts from mark-ups offset against subsidies to cover losses from the sale of goods at prices lower than internal prices?

12. Can Poland give for a recent year an account of the subsidies and profits made in connection with trade by its foreign trade organizations, and can it supply the regulations under which such accounting is done?

13. In what respect and by what means could Poland assure contracting parties that Poland would accord their imports treatment no less favourable than that accorded to imports from other countries?

14. Could the Polish Government undertake that the sales price on the Polish market of each commodity imported from the contracting parties will not exceed the f.o.b. landed cost of the commodity by more than a specified percentage?
15. Article III of the GATT provides for national treatment with respect to internal taxation and regulations. Will Poland make available to the contracting parties, now and in the future, copies of its "laws, regulations and requirements affecting the internal sale, offering for sale, purchase transportation, distribution or use of products and internal quantitative regulations requiring the mixture, processing or use of products in specified amounts or proportions" and information concerning the application of these laws, regulations and requirements?

16. How would Poland honour its global purchase commitment to the contracting parties in the event of its encountering: (1) over-all balance-of-payments difficulty; (2) payments difficulty with respect to certain currency areas but not others; (3) bilateral balance-of-payments problems with some but not all members of the same currency areas?

17. Would Poland be able to honour its global purchase commitment to the contracting parties in the event Poland's Eastern trading partners were to object that the commitment conflicts with Poland's undertakings to them?

18. What preferential arrangements does Poland have with the USSR and other Eastern countries?

19. How do Poland's clearing arrangements with Eastern European countries affect Poland's trade?

20. Does Poland's participation in CEMA affect Polish import and export capabilities?

21. What is Poland's balance-of-payments position?

22. How can the contracting parties be sure that Polish trade agencies' activities will be governed by commercial considerations (price, quality, date and conditions of delivery of goods) and that the Ministry of Foreign Trade will not intervene to persuade the trade agencies to direct trade in a discriminatory manner in order to fulfil import or export quotas foreseen in trade treaties?

23. What are Poland's long-term commitments with all countries, including price, terms, credits, etc.?

24. If Poland becomes a contracting party to the GATT will Poland seek to terminate existing bilateral trade and payments agreements with GATT contracting parties?

25. For what purpose, in view of the fact that imports are now reserved to a State monopoly, does the Polish Government intend to introduce a customs tariff in the near future?
26. How will the effect of the future customs tariff differ from that of the present internal pricing system, as far as setting a domestic price is concerned?

27. Would Poland agree to introduce its tariff on certain commodities at the time of accession, at the same time undertaking (1) to bind these duties against increase and (2) to import annually certain minimum quantities of these commodities from the interested contracting parties?

28. Would Poland agree to terms of accession which would accord each interested contracting party the right to suspend MFN tariff treatment with respect to Poland and to levy present rates of duty on imports from Poland, provided that the contracting party exercising this right simultaneously relinquished its right to share in Poland's global purchase commitment?

29. Inasmuch as Polish export prices cannot be compared with internal prices by applying the official rate of exchange, how could the contracting parties apply the valuation provisions of GATT Article VI?

30. Would Poland agree to having dutiable values of Polish products determined by taking into account the prices of like or directly competitive products, if any, being imported simultaneously from other countries?

31. On what principles would the total value of Poland's global purchase commitment be determined?

32. How would the global purchase commitment be enforced with respect to each country's exports to Poland and what special procedures would be needed to measure progress in living up to commitments?

33. Would the principle of non-discrimination between GATT and non-GATT countries govern the negotiation by Poland of bilateral commitments to non-GATT countries?

34. What commitment is Poland willing to make about giving concessions on agricultural as well as non-agricultural items in a non-discriminatory manner?

35. How could Poland arrange to acquire on a competitive, non-discriminatory basis commodities above and beyond its minimum global commitment?

36. How could Poland reconcile its bilateral arrangements to receive certain commodities from certain countries with its non-discriminatory policy toward contracting parties?

37. In what commodities and to what extent does Poland plan to expand its trade with contracting parties?
38. Inasmuch as Poland is not in a position to offer a schedule of tariff concessions, is it the understanding of Poland that the rights which are accorded to countries of initial negotiation, to countries which have a principal supplying interest, and to countries which have a substantial interest in the concessions of other contracting parties will not be acquired by Poland?

39. Where the same commodity is imported from several countries, will the commodity be sold in Poland at the same price or at prices reflecting the differences in landed cost into Poland?

40. Will imports go back into private hands; if so, when?

41. What publicity will be given to trade policy decisions by Poland?