YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS (ENTERPRISES) AND
FOREIGN TRADE AND EXCHANGE SYSTEMS

Questions raised by members of the Working Party

By Australia

1. The Yugoslav Government introduced support prices for cereals in July 1957:

(a) What are the levels of these prices compared with the c.i.f. landed price of like competitive products expressed in equivalent terms of exchange?

(b) What proportion of the crop is sold at the support price to the central organization which is under the supervision of the Federal Food Administration?

2. The Government appears to influence the level of supply on the home market by importing foodstuffs (most importantly wheat, lard and sugar) at a rate of 300 dinars to the US dollar - no import coefficients are applied. Moreover all imported wheat is held by the central organization referred to above, which is responsible for the distribution of internal wheat and flour supplies.

(a) Has the Government a monopoly on such imports? If so, what are the criteria determining sources and quantities for import? Are imports effected up to the level required to satisfy the full level of domestic demand? What is the mark-up applied to these imports for domestic sale?

(b) If private traders are also allowed to participate, what is the extent of their participation and what import coefficients are applied?

3. In the light of the answers to the above questions how would the Yugoslav Government envisage applying reciprocal m.f.n. treatment to imports from countries exporters of these products?
By the United Kingdom

1. How does the Committee for Foreign Trade work out the annual programme of exports and imports? How does the Committee determine in advance what goods will be exported and what imported?

2. What safeguards are employed to protect the Yugoslav balance-of-payments position? For example, quotas of foreign exchange are distributed among the enterprises. How does the Yugoslav Government ensure that these quotas are not exhausted in luxury goods?

3. What guidance is given to the economic organizations "to prevent them from deviating from pre-established proportions"? What does "pre-established proportions" mean?

4. What are the criteria on which import licences are issued for motor vehicles and what are the levels of duty?

5. On what basis does the Committee for Foreign Trade determine the economic justification of the registration of an enterprise to engage in foreign trade?

6. Duty is paid on "non-commercial" imports by residents. How are "non-commercial" imports distinguished from imports of other consumer goods and what are the levels of duty?
1. Is Yugoslavia prepared to publish and make available promptly its laws and regulations affecting trade, as well as changes therein?

2. To what extent would the system in Yugoslavia require the non-disclosure of information of this character?

3. Is non-discrimination practiced in the administration of the trade laws and regulations? What recourse is available to persons dissatisfied with the application of these laws and regulations?

4. Is Yugoslavia prepared to consult on a reciprocal basis with any signatory country making representations that specified Yugoslav trade practices are not in conformity with the objectives of the GATT? Would this apply with respect to trade restrictions which could not be justified on balance-of-payments grounds?

5. In the event that such consultations between interested signatories are not concluded satisfactorily, would Yugoslavia be prepared to seek the advice of the contracting parties, participate in discussions with them, and be guided by their advice?

6. In view of its annual consultations with the International Monetary Fund, does Yugoslavia envisage any difficulty in undertaking a full-scale balance-of-payments consultation with the signatory countries?

7. Please explain the operation of the exchange allocation system.
By the European Economic Community

1. On what basis does the breakdown of imports and exports operate since the Federal Social Plan, by which the general level of imports and exports is fixed, should serve as the basis for drawing up the balance-of-payments estimates (see document L/962, page 2, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4)?

2. What criteria are followed for granting licences for the import and export of non-freed products (see document L/962, page 2, paragraph 5)?

3. What are the products under quota or subject to quantitative import restrictions which are mentioned in document L/962, page 3, paragraphs 5 and 6 ("some basic raw materials", "some spare parts, equipment and industrial consumer goods")?

4. With regard to the registering of enterprises in the foreign trade register, is it exact that the producing economic organizations have an automatic right to be registered in this register providing they fulfil the prescribed conditions (see document L/962, page 6, paragraph 1) while, on the other hand, other organizations of a strictly business character are in a position to be refused registration for certain economic reasons (see document L/961, page 9)? If so, for what reasons?

5. Can Yugoslavia provide information on its recent consultations with the International Monetary Fund on the different rates of exchange for the dinar (see document L/962, page 8)?

6. What is the basis for calculating and what is the means for applying the thirteen export co-efficients and the eleven import co-efficients (see document L/962, page 13)? More particularly, are these applied uniformly by product, by monetary region, by country of origin or destination? Does Yugoslav negotiate the import and export co-efficients mentioned in document L/962 (page 13) bilaterally? And is Yugoslavia in a position to do so?

7. The National Bank grants the necessary foreign exchange for imports to each sector broken down by groups of countries. If, as a result, this system causes a discrimination, how does Yugoslavia undertake to bring this situation in line with the GATT?

8. Within which time-limit does the Government of Yugoslavia expect to be able to finalize its customs tariff?
By Canada

1. Does the Yugoslav Government regularly publish statistics showing the source volume and value of all imports into Yugoslavia, and the destination volume and value of all exports from Yugoslavia? If not, would the Yugoslav Government be prepared to publish such statistics?

2. Could the Yugoslav representative explain in greater detail how an effective competition among enterprises in Yugoslavia is achieved?

3. Is it possible for the Yugoslav Government to give assurances that, within the limits of their earnings of currencies of GATT countries, purchases would be made within a global quota open to GATT countries on a non-discriminatory basis?

4. Is the Yugoslav Government a party to any trade agreements under which it is obliged to import particular quantities of goods or of goods valued at particular amounts?

5. Does Yugoslavia admit agencies of foreign firms on its territory? If so, are there any restrictions or regulations that do not apply to competing Yugoslav enterprises?