FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Availability of Statistics Underlying the Analysis of Effects on Trade of Tariffs and Tariff Changes

The GATT Committee on Trade in Industrial Products agreed in February 1971 to examine the feasibility of analyzing the effects on trade of tariffs and tariff changes and developing better measures of these effects. The Working Party on the Tariff Study, which was assigned this task recognized that the first step in such an examination would be to determine precisely what relevant statistical material is available and to what degree of detail. The Working Party, deciding that a standard questionnaire would be the best method of obtaining uniform and easily comparable data in this regard, drew up the attached questionnaire at its meeting of 8-11 June. The field to be covered includes industrial products and raw materials other than foodstuffs and the industrial branches producing these goods. The availability of information from unpublished as well as published sources is of interest.

In indicating the availability of each type of data listed, respondents are requested to specify the level of commodity detail available or the products covered, describe the methods of collection of the data (if by sampling, identify the products used in the sample), describe the statistical classification systems used and concordances between the various data series, and indicate whether the data, unpublished or published, could be made available to the GATT, on a restricted basis if necessary.

Replies should cover information available at any level of aggregation or any type of classification system. However, it is essential to report whatever data are available at a detailed level, preferably corresponding to tariff lines. Replies should indicate the availability of data for a period of years. Data for the past ten years are of special interest.

Available methodological notes or surveys containing the information requested below may replace or supplement replies to specific questions.

Replies are requested by the end of September.
1. Imports statistics

(a) Are data on the value and the quantity of imports available for the last ten years (if not, specify the years for which they are available):

- at the customs tariff line level?
- at a more detailed level (if so, specify the detail and whether it is compatible with the tariff classification)?
- according to a different classification?
  
  if so, please indicate whether a full concordance between the tariff and the import nomenclatures is or can be established, at what level of aggregation, for what period, and whether it is one-for-one.

(b) Indicate whether the data are available or can be established with a full breakdown by country of provenance or whether they at least distinguish between most-favoured-nation and preferential imports.

(c) Indicate for what years these data have been computerized.

(d) Please attach any available notes giving definitions and describing methods according to which trade statistics are established, specifying the valuation basis and indicating units generally used for recording quantities (specify if other units are used alternatively or additionally in import statistics and whether they match with the units applying to specific or mixed rates in the customs tariff).

2. Tariffs

(a) Can the tariff rates (most favoured nation, preferential, etc.) actually applied be reported year by year; can the tariff rates which differ from the bindings be identified (if so, specify for which years)?

(b) Is it possible to supply for the time period under (a) ad valorem equivalents of specific or mixed rates based on

- total imports?
- most-favoured-nation imports?
- imports by individual countries of origin?

(c) If the tariff classification is not based on BTN indicate on what basis the concordance is established, to which issues of the tariff it applies and whether a trade allocation scheme is included and revised regularly.
3. **Production statistics**

(a) Are statistics on the value of output (or shipments) available
   - by commodities?
   - by groups of commodities?

If so, on what basis:
   - gross output?
   - net output (value added)?
   - other basis?

Please indicate the commodity detail, the classification system used, and product coverage of each series.

(b) Do the production data include indirect taxes?

   If so, can they be excluded?

(c) Is a concordance between the classification of commodities by industrial origin and the imports classification available

   - at tariff line level?
   - at higher level of aggregation (if so, please specify)?

At what level of detail can data on net output (value added) be related to imports?

(d) Are input/output tables available? If so, indicate the product coverage and level of detail.

(e) Are the detailed and the aggregated production statistics and I/O tables compiled annually?

   Specify the years available.

(f) Please attach any available notes describing the definitions, product coverage, statistical classification, methods of compilation and sources of production statistics and of I/O tables and specifying in particular the type of enquiry on which they are based (census of manufacturing, industrial surveys, fiscal statistics etc.).

4. **Consumption statistics**

(a) Are data on value of consumption currently available or can they be established from export and import values corresponding to production or shipment data?
(b) On what basis
- sample enquiries?
- fiscal statistics?
- apparent consumption?
- other methods (if so, please specify)?

(c) For which product categories and at what detail?

(d) Does a concordance exist between the consumption and the import statistics (or between production, exports and imports)?

(e) Do the consumption values include indirect taxes?
   If so, can they be excluded?

(f) Are the consumption data available on annual basis?
   Specify the years available.

(g) Please attach any available notes on definitions, product coverage, statistical classifications, sources and methods of compilation of consumption statistics and indicate any published or unpublished surveys or statistical series concerning imports related to consumption which could be made available (even on a restricted basis if necessary).

5. Price statistics

(a) Import prices
   (i) Are data on prices of imported commodities collected regularly?
   (ii) Are import unit values calculated regularly?
   (iii) Can data under (i) or (ii) or indices derived therefrom be made available
      - at tariff line level?
      - at higher level of aggregation (specify)?
      - for what time periods are they compiled and for what years are they available?
   (iv) Please supply notes on definitions, sources and methods applying to the compilations of the import price series specifying in particular the coverage, marketing stage, valuation basis, the detail at which the data used in the calculations are collected and the corresponding units of quantities as well as any adjustments applied to the basic data.
(b) Domestic prices

(i) Are data on prices on the home market collected regularly:
   - producer price (ex-factory or including prepaid freight)?
   - wholesale price?
   - retail price?

(ii) At what level of detail can the various price data (or price indices) be made available?
   - for what time periods are they compiled, for what years are they available and are the series comparable?

(iii) Can imported products be excluded from these series?

(iv) Please attach notes on definitions, sources and methods applying to the various series specifying in particular the coverage, the method of collection (direct reporting, price list, irregular sample surveys, etc.), the taxes and charges included and, in the case of indices, the product composition, (including any changes introduced in recent years) the base year and the type of index.

(c) Comparability of the import price and the domestic price series.

(i) Does a concordance exist between the nomenclatures used for the import price and the domestic price statistics?
   
   If not, could it be established (if so, please specify the level of aggregation)?

(ii) Could the import and the domestic price series be adjusted to the same basis:
   - freight and insurance?
   - customs duties and charges?
   - marketing stage?
   - commodity coverage and weighting pattern for the price indices?

(iii) Indicate any available (published or unpublished) surveys or studies comparing international trade prices with domestic prices or relating these price statistics to import, domestic production or consumption data. In particular, indicate any known or estimated price elasticities of import demand and supply, income elasticities, and import and production functions for specific products or product categories.

(d) Could other factors which may have influenced the evolution of prices be reported (e.g. changes in monetary parity, price control measures affecting all or certain products during the period envisaged, etc.)?