Document Bringing Together the Elements Contained in the Proposals of Australia (MTN/ME/W/22 and MTN/ME/W/22/Add.1) and the European Communities (MTN/ME/W/18 and MTN/ME/W/23), and the Considerations Expresssed During the Discussion

Note by the Secretariat

Revision

1. At the meeting in November-December 1977 the secretariat was invited to prepare, on its own responsibility and in the light of the discussions, a revised text presenting in the most precise terms possible the various provisions contained in document MTN/ME/W/24. With a view to the furtherance of the negotiations, the Sub-Group agreed to consider the revised document as a working hypothesis and to discuss it at its next meeting. (MTN/ME/6, paragraph 5)

2. The terminology used in the present document has been adopted for reasons of convenience only.

3. The possibility of additional proposals was noted (MTN/ME/6, paragraph 5).
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ARRANGEMENT REGARDING MEAT

PREAMBLE

OBJECTIVES

Note: No attempt has been made to draft the preamble and the objectives.

The participants to the present Arrangement have, through their representatives, agreed as follows:
PART ONE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article I - Product Coverage

1. This Arrangement applies to bovine meat. For the purpose of this Arrangement, the term "meat" is considered to include:

(a) Live bovine animals 01.02
(b) Meat and edible offals of bovine animals, fresh, chilled or frozen ex 02.06
(c) Meat and edible offals of bovine animals, salted, in brine, dried or smoked ex 02.06
(d) Other prepared or preserved meat or offal of bovine animals ex 16.02
(e) Swine, live 01.03
(f) Sheep, live ex 01.04
(g) Meat and edible offals of swine and sheep, fresh, chilled or frozen ex 02.01
(h) Pig fat, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine or smoked ex 02.05
(i) Meat and edible meat offals of swine and sheep, salted, in brine, dried or smoked ex 02.06
(j) Sausages and the like, of meat, meat offal or animal blood 16.01
(k) Other prepared or preserved meat of swine and sheep and offals thereof ex 16.02

and to such other meats as may be added at a later date.
Article II - Information

1. All participants agree to provide regularly and promptly to the Meat Council, established under the terms of Article VI of this Arrangement, the information which will permit the Meat Council to assess the overall situation of the world market for meat and the situation of the world market for each specific meat.

2. The information that the participants undertake to provide under the terms of paragraph 1 of this Article, according to the modalities that the Meat Council shall establish, will include detailed data on past performance as well as trends and prospects of production, consumption, exports, imports, prices and stocks of the products referred to in Article I and any other information deemed necessary by the Meat Council. Participants shall also provide information about their national policies regarding meat and changes and/or amendments thereto, for production, consumption, imports/exports and stocks, and they shall use all reasonable means in their power that are consistent with their national legislation, to notify their intentions in this matter when these would have repercussions on the international trade of meat.

3. When establishing the modalities of the information procedure, the Council shall avoid duplication of work taking into account information provided to other intergovernmental organizations.

4. The secretariat of the Arrangement shall keep under permanent surveillance variations in the level of certain market data, for instance stocks, slaughterings and prices, so as to permit early detection of the symptoms of the emergence of any crisis situation. The secretariat shall keep the Meat Council apprised of significant developments on world meat markets.
Article III - Consultation

1. The Meat Council shall meet in order to:

(a) establish a world supply and demand estimate on the basis of an interpretative analysis of the present situation and of the short-term outlook drawn up by the secretariat of the Arrangement, on the basis of documentation provided in conformity with Article II of the present Arrangement;

(b) proceed to a comprehensive examination of the functioning of the present Arrangement.

2. If after examination of the world supply and demand estimate referred to in paragraph 1(a) of Article III, or after examination of information pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article II, the Council finds that a disturbance or a threat thereof is developing in the international meat market, the Council will proceed to the identification of measures which should be implemented by the participants in order to remedy the situation.

3. Measures to be taken in terms of paragraph 2 of this Article, could include unilateral, bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral actions, having an impact on supply and demand in world markets. Such measures could also include adjustments of national policies. Furthermore the measures to be implemented could include actions on production inputs in the meat sector.

4. When considering measures to be implemented pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article, due consideration shall be given to special and more favourable treatment to developing countries.
Article IV - Other General Provisions

1. Health and sanitary measures

It was recalled that negotiations on a draft code on Technical Barriers to Trade were being held in the Sub-Group "Technical Barriers to Trade". The applicability of this draft Code to agricultural products will be reviewed by Group "Agriculture" and it would therefore be appropriate to await the outcome of this work in the two above-mentioned Groups.

Note: Group "Agriculture" should meet promptly to review, within the framework of its mandate, the applicability of the draft code on Technical Barriers to Trade to health and sanitary measures. This meeting should include the participation of experts in these problems. It was noted as well that on the basis of the request lists, bilateral discussions will bear on certain aspects of health and sanitary measures for which relaxation is requested. The results of these discussions will be included in the Annex. The opinion was expressed that it is necessary to provide for provisions guaranteeing in the future the possibility of having bilateral discussions on health and sanitary measures, at the request of a country.

2. Safeguards

It was recalled that negotiations on this subject were being held in the Group "Safeguards" and it would therefore be appropriate to await the outcome of these negotiations.

3. Negotiation/code of conduct

No attempt has been made to draft the text of this paragraph.

4. Export/ Subsidies

It was recalled that negotiations on this subject were being held in the Sub-Group "Subsidies and Countervailing Duties" and it would therefore be appropriate to await the outcome of these negotiations.

Note: As regards measures considered under paragraphs 2 and 4 of the present Article, it was noted that there should be a provision allowing for the possibility of special and differentiated treatment for developing countries.
PART TWO

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

Article V

1. Access commitments

(a) The provisions of paragraph 1(b) of this Article are applicable to the products listed in Article I.

(b) The obligations contracted by the participants in terms of paragraph 1 of this Article, are set forth in the Annex to the present Arrangement.

2. Joint disciplines

(a) The provisions of paragraphs 2(b) and 2(c) of this Article are applicable to the products listed in Article I.

(b) Each participant undertakes to take the steps necessary to adjust

- its import policy in all the necessary elements so that imports are carried out under as regular and orderly conditions as possible;

- its export policy so that exports are carried out as regularly and in as orderly a manner as possible.

(c) The bilateral or plurilateral commitments, which specify the nature of the commitments entered into, are set forth in the Annex to the present Arrangement.
PART THREE

Article VI - Administration of the Arrangement

1. Meat Council

A Meat Council shall be established within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The Council shall comprise representatives of all participants to the Arrangement and shall carry out all the functions which are necessary to implement the provisions of the Arrangement. The Council shall be serviced by the GATT secretariat.

2. Regular and special meetings

The Council shall normally meet at least twice a year. However, the chairman may call a special meeting of the Council either on his own initiative, or at the request of a participant to the Arrangement in view of the information communicated in terms of Article II.
PART FOUR

Article VII - Final Provisions

Note: This Article should include the following headings:

1. **Entry into force**
2. **Duration**
3. **Amendments**
4. **Relationship between the Arrangement and the Annex**
   - The Annex is considered to form an integral part of the present Arrangement.
5. **Acceptance**
6. **Withdrawal**
Results of bilateral or plurilateral negotiations as taken from the schedules annexed to the [Geneva] (...) Protocol and annexed to the present Arrangement/