

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

Spec(74)21/Corr.1
5 July 1974

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

GROUP 3(a) - REPORT TO THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

DRAFT

Corrigendum

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7. Insert after present first sentence the following sentence: It was agreed that the column showing imports under the GSP which were subject to limitations should be further sub-divided to show separately imports subject to tariff quotas and imports for which indicative ceilings or surveillance measures had been established.
8. The Group agreed to add to the tabulations information indicating trade taking place under regional arrangements to be presented in five columns showing:
- (1) imports of MNF origin;
 - (2) imports from EFTA or NAFTA;
 - (3) EFTA-EEC trade;
 - (4) imports from other free-trade areas or of other preferential origin;
 - (5) imports under (2), (3) and (4) above not covered by the respective agreements.
9. Each column would distinguish trade under m.f.n. duty free and m.f.n. dutiable tariff lines. A footnote would indicate that this presentation was adopted for reasons of statistical convenience and would not constitute a new interpretation from a juridical point of view of the legal basis for these exchanges. It was furthermore agreed that this tabulation would not be limited to those countries which were already operating generalized preference schemes, but would include all countries participating in the Tariff Study.

10. Since it was proposed that these tabulations would cover also products classified in BTN chapters 1-24, the Group agreed that Group 3(c) should be informed of the result of the discussions on this matter.

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15. The Group agreed to a proposal to establish a tariff data bank on the basis of submissions by governments of detailed information on their various tariff rates such as GATT rates, m.f.n. rates applied to GATT countries in the absence of other legislation on e.g. temporary duty changes, m.f.n. rates actually assessed from GATT countries on selected dates, and effectively applied rates under the GSP. This tariff information should be accompanied by an explanatory note setting out in some detail the constitutional and legal practices of governments when defining and determining tariff rates and their application, suspension etc. A target date of 1 October 1974 for submission of this data was proposed and the Group, while for technical reasons not committing itself fully, agreed to work towards this date.

16. As to the question of reference dates, the Group agreed that information on tariff rates should be firm for 1 January or 1 April 1972, 1 January 1973 and 1 January 1974, on the understanding that countries which would have problems with the 1972 and 1973 figures would indicate this in their submissions.

17. The Group also discussed proposals to include additional information in the submissions, e.g. non-m.f.n. rates, import charges other than normal duties, and variable levies. It was agreed that these questions would be reverted to at a later stage. With regard to ad valorem equivalents of specific rates and specific components of compound rates, it was agreed that countries would provide such equivalents as they were in a position to do, along with explanations of how these had been calculated. The need to arrive at a common basis for such data for comparison purposes could be reviewed later.

18. The Group agreed that countries with tariff nomenclatures different from the BTN should as far as possible indicate in their submissions the concordance established by them between each heading in their tariff and the four-digit BTN heading. It was understood that for many tariff items this would be a very complicated undertaking for some countries; it should at least be possible to do so to the extent done for the purposes of the Tariff Study.

19. The Group agreed to inform Group 3(e) of its decision to establish the tariff data bank.

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