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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

IC/W/28

22 October 1954

Ad Hoc Committee on Agenda and Intersessional Business

DRAFT ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
FOR THE NINTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES
COMMENCING 28 OCTOBER 1954

Draft for consideration on 26 October by
the Ad Hoc Committee on Agenda and Intersessional Business

Document References: Notes by the Secretariat;
Recommendations by the Intersessional Committee

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND
ORDER OF BUSINESS

Report by Committee - IC/W/29

Recommendations:

- (i) that item 3 - Review of the Agreement - be discussed in plenary meetings commencing on 8 November and proceed each afternoon without interruption (see Report, para. 3);
- (ii) that dates be fixed, in consultation with the organizations and representatives concerned, for the following items to be dealt with in plenary meetings during the week commencing 1 November;
 - 7 - Balance-of-Payment Import Restrictions
 - 9(a) - European Coal and Steel Community
 - 9(d) - Italy/Libya
 - 11(b) - Nicaragua/El Salvador;
- (iii) that, if possible, working parties be appointed in the first days of the Session to deal with
 - Item 7 - Balance-of-Payment Import Restrictions
 - Item 9(a) - European Coal and Steel Community

- Item 14 - Rectification of Schedules
- Item 17 - Applications under Article XVIII

with instructions to proceed as far as possible with their work by 6 November (see Report, para. 3);

- (iv) that the four sub-items of item 8 - Customs Administration - be taken up on 22 November at which time it is expected that customs experts will be present (see G/84);
- (v) that the CONTRACTING PARTIES endeavour to dispose of as many other items as possible by 6 November.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND

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AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

Note: Under rule 10 the terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen expire at the opening of the Session.

3. REVIEW OF THE
AGREEMENT

Notes by the secretariat - L/189 and Add.1.
Proposals by the United States - L/246.

4. PLANS FOR TARIFF
REDUCTION

Statement by the Benelux Governments - L/210.

Recommendation: that the question be taken up in connection with the Review (see IC/W/29 paras. 7 & 8).

5. STATUS OF SCHEDULES
AFTER 30 JUNE 1955

Statement by the Austrian Government - L/217.

Recommendation: that the question of prolonging the assured life of the Schedules beyond 30 June 1955 be considered early in the Session (see IC/W/29 paras. 10 & 11).

6. ACCESSION OF JAPAN

Request by Japan - L/205.

Procedures - L/225.

contracting parties proposing to negotiate -
L/225/Add.1.

Recommendation: that arrangements be made for negotiations commencing 1 February 1955 (see IC/W/29 para. 9).

7. BALANCE OF PAYMENT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

- (a) Consultations under Article XIV:1(g)
- (b) Request by Rhodesia and Nyasaland
- (c) Fifth Annual Report

Initiation of consultations by Australia, Ceylon, New Zealand and the United Kingdom - L/194 and Add.1.

Request for exemption from consultation - L/194 and Add.2.

Note: A draft is being prepared by the secretariat. All contracting parties which apply restrictions pursuant to Article XIV (except Brazil, Chile and Uruguay) have submitted the required statements.

Recommendation: that the preparation of the report be entrusted, as last year, to the Working Party which conducts the consultations.

8. CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

- (a) Methods of Valuation
- (b) Nationality of Imported Goods
- (c) Consular Formalities
- (d) Documentary Requirements

Questionnaire to contracting parties asking for replies by 10 November - L/228

Recommendation: that this question be taken up during the Review in connection with Article VII (see IC/W/29 paras. 12 & 13).

Comments on the proposed definition of origin - L/179/Add.1.

Note: the secretariat is preparing an analysis of the comments received.

Note: the secretariat is preparing notes on the reports received from contracting parties in 1954.

Reports on compliance with the Standard Practices - L/198/Add.1.

Note: the secretariat is preparing an analysis of the reports received.

9. ANNUAL REPORTS ON WAIVERS

- (a) European Coal and Steel Community
- (b) United Kingdom Waiver on Article I

Report by the Member States - L/240.

Note by the Executive Secretary - L/247.

Note: no report has been received.

(c) Australia/Papua-
New Guinea

Report by Australia - L/251.

(d) Italy/Libya

Reports by Italy and Libya - L/232.

10. FEDERATION OF RHODESIA
AND NYASALAND

Report by the Intersessional Committee - L/250.

11. ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XXIV

(a) South Africa/S.Rhodesia
Customs Union

(i) Plan and Schedule

Note: It is understood that the two Governments have been in consultation on the future of the Customs Union Agreement.

(ii) Report of the
Customs Union
Council

Note: A copy was sent to each contracting party with L/222.

(b) Nicaragua/El Salvador

Report by Nicaragua - L/233.

12. COMPLAINTS

(a) United States Dairy
Products

Note: Resolution of 13 October 1953 requests the United States Government to report before the Session on action taken (BISD, 2nd Supp., p.28).

(b) United States Duty
on Dried Figs

Note: Resolution of 23 October 1953 requests the Governments of the United States, Greece, Italy and Turkey to report at the Session on action taken (BISD, 2nd Supp., p.26).

(c) United States Export
Subsidy on Oranges

Note: This question was discussed at the request of Italy at the Eighth Session (SR.8/14).

(d) Brazilian Internal
Taxes

Note: Resolution of 24 October 1953 requests the Government of Brazil to report on action taken (BISD, 2nd Supp., p.25).

(e) Brazilian Compensatory
Concessions

Note: Resolution of 24 October 1953 requests the Government of Brazil to report on action taken (BISD, 2nd Supp., p.24).

(f) Belgian Dollar Import
Restrictions

Note: This question was discussed at the Eighth Session and it was agreed that the Government of Belgium would report on the outcome of talks with other governments (SR.8/14).

- (g) Belgian Family Allowances
Report by Belgium - L/187.
Note: It is reported that the tax in question was suppressed on 6 March 1954. This appears to dispose of the complaint.
- (h) French Statistical Tax on Imports and Exports
Report by France - L/238.
Note: It is reported that the tax in question has been suspended from 1 October until 31 December 1954.
- (j) French Stamp Tax
Item proposed by the United States - L/245.
- (k) French Special Temporary Compensation Tax on Imports
Item proposed by Italy - L/213.
- (l) Swedish Anti-dumping Duties
Item proposed by Italy - L/215.
- (m) Turkish Import Taxes and Export Bonuses
Item proposed by Italy - L/214.
- (n) German Discrimination in Coal Imports
Item proposed by the United States - L/242.
- (o) Greek Luxury Tax and Tariff Changes
Item proposed by Italy - L/234.
- (p) Peru - Prohibition of Imports from Czechoslovakia
Item proposed by Czechoslovakia - L/235.
13. TURKISH SCHEDULE TRANSPOSITION
Statement by Turkey - L/229.
14. RECTIFICATION OF SCHEDULES
Draft of the Fourth Protocol of Rectifications and Modifications - L/236.
15. STATUS OF PROTOCOLS
List of contracting parties which have not signed the Second and Third Protocols of Rectifications and Modifications - L/252.
16. DISCRIMINATION IN TRANSPORT INSURANCE
Note: The Executive Secretary's report is being prepared.

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17. APPLICATIONS UNDER
ARTICLE XVIII

- (a) Notification by
Uruguay
- (b) Application by Cuba
- (c) Application by
Ceylon

Note by the secretariat (which reproduces the notification by Uruguay) - L/231.

Request to extend the release granted in 1949 - L/221.

Request to extend five releases granted in 1949 - 1952 and for a new release - L/230/Rev.1.

18. SAMPLES CONVENTION

Report on acceptances and accessions - L/253.

Recommendation: that the CONTRACTING PARTIES express their disappointment that so few governments have accepted or acceded to the Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Samples and Advertising Material, the text of which was agreed upon two years ago; take note that governments whose regulations are in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, by their failure to accept it, are preventing its entry into force and are thus depriving themselves of its benefits; and in view of the importance of this Convention to achievement of the objectives of the Agreement, urge contracting parties to take action in this matter as quickly as possible so that the Convention can enter into force without further delay.

19. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AND BUDGET

Financial statement for 1954 - L/226 and Add.1.
Budget estimates for 1955 - L/227.
Report by Working Party - L/254.

20. RENEWAL OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR
INTERSESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE AGREEMENT

21. DATE AND PLACE OF THE TENTH
SESSION