

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

AIR/TSC/W/33

1 April 1982

Special Distribution

Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Note by the Chairman for the 28 April 1982 Meeting

1. At its meeting on 18 March 1982, the Technical Sub-Committee decided to meet on 28 April 1982, for the sole purpose of discussing the list of products proposed for extension of the coverage of the Agreement, with a view to finalizing that list and sending it to the Aircraft Committee. It was understood that the basis for the discussion would be the informal index which the secretariat had prepared for the last meeting.

2. In order to ensure that all delegations are adequately prepared for the next meeting, the secretariat has prepared a revised "Index to Documents" (containing the List of Selected Products, Additional Information and new Proposals - AIR/TSC/W/32). The Index shows where information on each suggested 4-digit CCCN item can be found. All documents referred to in the Index have been distributed. Revisions of the Index will be issued whenever amendments, additions or corrections reach the secretariat.

3. The Aircraft Committee has asked that we report on our work at its 28 June 1982 meeting. It is therefore proposed that at its 28 April meeting the Technical Sub-Committee should:

- (a) complete the List of Selected Products,
- (b) draw up a report to the Committee.

4. With respect to (a) - completion of the List of Selected Products - I would propose that the List be transmitted in the form of the "Index to Documents" (a revision of AIR/TSC/W/32), in order to avoid reproducing voluminous documentation which Signatories have already in their possession. The questions which the Sub-Committee will need to address with respect to the "List" are:

- 1. Does the "List" (in the form of an up-dated Index (AIR/TSC/W/32) include all products which we want to send to the Aircraft Committee as the Technical Sub-Committee's report?
- 2. Are any products superfluous?
- 3. Do any products need to be added to this "List"?

5. With respect to (b) - report to the Committee - I would propose that it contain, inter alia, the Technical Sub-Committee's replies to the seven points requested by the Committee (see Annex). Replies to points (1) to (5) would be contained in the Index and underlying documentation; replies to points (6) and (7) would be incorporated in the report. The Sub-Committee will therefore need to consider its position on points (6) and (7):

- with respect to point (6) - the development of recommended product nomenclature - delegations may wish to consider whether the solution adopted for the Annex to the Agreement is satisfactory. If not, it might be more productive to address that question after the Committee has given an indication of its intentions with respect to the "List".
- with respect to point (7) - identification of rectifications - delegations are reminded that, in March 1980, the GATT Council adopted a decision on procedures for rectifications and modification (BISD, 27th Supplement, p. 25) which indicates that the rectification process applies "when amendments or rearrangements which do not alter the scope of a concession are introduced in national customs tariffs in respect of bound items. Such changes and other rectifications of a purely formal character shall be made by means of certifications".

6. As was agreed at the 18 March 1982 meeting, the Technical Sub-Committee will revert to the other issues which it has before it (statistics, tariff classification (HS) and transparency of domestic tariffs) at its meeting on 28 June 1982.

ANNEX

Extract from AIR/M/5, p.4

- (1) specific examples of parts of aircraft and related equipment, which would be included in the proposed product description;
- (2) relevant technical information (including drawings or illustrations, where available) regarding such products;
- (3) an indication of whether the product is likely to have an aircraft manufacturers' parts number;
- (4) problems brought to Signatories' attention concerning non-aircraft uses and trade diversion of products proposed;
- (5) to the extent possible, a rough estimate of trade for each product;
- (6) recommended product nomenclature to be used in the Annex of the Agreement; and
- (7) an identification of those products which the Technical Sub-Committee considers to be rectifications rather than substantive changes to the Annex.