

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

CONFIDENTIAL

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## INTERNATIONAL MEAT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

Twelfth Meeting - 24 April 1979

### Statement Made by the Representative of Poland

The Polish delegation presents information on the present situation in the meat market, together with estimates for the current year and for 1980, in regard to production and trade.

By the beginning of this year and in comparison with the data for June 1978, the livestock population had increased as follows:

Cattle	13,162 thousand head, i.e. by 0.4 per cent
Swine	22,217 " " " " 2.5 per cent
Sheep	4,364 " " " " 3.0 per cent

In the same period in the individual sector of agriculture, there was a decline by 0.6 per cent for cattle, 0.9 per cent for sheep and an increase of only 1.5 per cent in respect of swine.

Purchases of live animals in 1978 were as follows:

Cattle for slaughter	1,266 thousand tons (live weight)
Calves	52 " " " "
Swine	1,909 " " " "
of which bacon-type pigs	121 " " " "
Sheep	16.4 " " " "

The purchasing plan for 1979 provides as follows:

Adult cattle	1,218 thousand tons (live weight)
Calves	45 " " " "
Swine	1,950 " " " "
Sheep	20 " " " "

Our statistics no longer record slaughterings either by head or by weight; we are therefore obliged to use data in respect of industrial production. In 1978 this was as follows:

663 thousand tons of beef and veal
1,474 " " of pork, and
277 " " of poultry

Per capita consumption of meat and meat products reached 70 kgs. in 1978, including 19.2 kgs. of beef and veal. This total figure therefore corresponds to our November 1978 estimates. Consumption was 1.3 per cent above the 1977 level.

Imports declined last year to 56.6 thousand tons, representing 44.7 per cent of purchases in 1977. The detailed figures are as follows:

Beef and veal	- 11.7	thousand tons	
Pork	- 17.9	"	"
Live swine	- 24.8	"	" (carcass weight)
Ducks	- 1.3	"	"
Turkeys	- 0.6	"	"

Exports in 1978 of live animals, meat and meat products were as follows:

	Unit	Quantity	Value (US\$ million)	% 1978:77
Adult cattle and calves	thousand head	190.0	57.5	127.0
of which for fattening	"	139.4	42.1	x
Sheep for slaughter and for fattening	"	269.1	13.5	117.4
Beef and veal	thousand tons	20.7	38.2	135.7
Pork	"	1.5	5.1	90.7
Poultry	"	18.0	40.6	104.8
Bacon	"	15.0	28.0	111.1
Tinned ham shoulders	"	39.8	139.4	107.0
Other meat preserves	"	19.9	40.8	94.1
Horse meat	"	16.0	27.3	101.8
Horses for slaughter	"	32.6	63.3	102.2
Total exports of animal products (not including fish)	"	x	ca 580.0	ca 120.0

Exports were stable, therefore, and the increase in value was principally due to higher prices.

In the bovine sector, which is of particular interest to us, there has been a net increase in the quantities exported. We hope that access to the Italian market, though limited by the introduction of quotas in respect of

livestock for fattening, and thanks to a levy reduced by 50 per cent, will allow moderate expansion of our sales to continue. We have been specializing for some years past in livestock for fattening.

The policy in regard to producers of livestock for slaughter consists, and will continue to consist in coming years, of:

- intensification of pig farming in order to improve the domestic market supply situation;
- encouragement to cattle production with a view to achieving maximum quantities of young bullocks weighing 220-300 kgs./head for export;
- continuing rapid growth of poultry production to supply the domestic market.

The long-term objective in the meat sector is to raise per capita consumption to 85 kgs. in the course of the next ten years. At the same time, Poland hopes to re-establish itself as an important exporter of animal products and by 1985 to raise the value of these exports to a level of some \$650-750 million each year.