

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

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UNITED STATES - UNILATERAL MEASURES ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN JAPANESE PRODUCTS

Request by Japan for Article XXIII:1 Consultations

The following communication, dated 18 April 1987, addressed to the Director-General, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Japan.

I have been instructed by my authorities to inform you that on 17 April 1987, the Government of Japan requested consultations with the United States under Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement concerning the US decision of the prohibitive tariff increase on certain Japanese exports to the United States on a unilateral and discriminatory basis in connection with the semi-conductor trade by Japan.

A copy of the letter requesting the consultations, from Mr. Yoshiyasu Sato, Minister at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, to Ambassador Michael Smith, Deputy US Trade Representative, is attached herewith.

I would like to request you to kindly circulate a copy of this letter together with the copy of the above-mentioned letter to Contracting Parties for their information.

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I wish to request consultations with the United States under Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) concerning the US decision of the prohibitive tariff increase on certain Japanese exports to the United States on a unilateral and discriminatory basis in connection with the semi-conductor trade by Japan.

The Government of Japan considers that such US measures contravene the United States' obligations under the relevant provisions of the GATT, inter alia, those of Article I and II, and constitute a prima facie case of nullification and impairment of the benefits accruing to Japan under the GATT.

The Government of Japan requests that consultations be held urgently with a view to reaching a satisfactory solution of this matter which should include immediate withdrawal of the US measures.