

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TARIFFS AND TRADE

LIC/15

9 June 1988

Special Distribution

Committee on Import Licensing

INDIA - LICENSING PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO IMPORTS OF ALMONDS

Withdrawal of Recourse to Article 4.2 of the Agreement by the United States

Note by the Chairman

The following communication, dated 3 June 1988, has been received by the Chairman of the Panel established in September 1987 (LIC/M/19 and LIC/14), from the delegation of the United States. It is being circulated for the information of signatories.

This is to advise you, the other panel members, and (through the Secretariat) the other signatories to the Agreement that the Governments of India and the United States have reached a mutually satisfactory solution of their dispute concerning India's licensing procedures on imports of almonds. As a result, my Government hereby withdraws its complaint and request for resolution of the dispute by the dispute settlement panel.

Let me describe the essential details of the basis of the mutually satisfactory solution. The agreement has a six-year term. During the first three years (April 1988 - March 1991), India will allow annual almond import authorizations from all sources to increase to \$20 million. In the second three-year period (1991-1994), India will remove all import licensing restrictions on almonds if India's balance-of-payments position improves to a specified level. India also will lower its tariff on shelled almonds from Rs. 56 per kilogram to Rs. 50 per kilogram and bind it at that level, and will bind the tariff on unshelled almonds at the current level of Rs. 28 per kilo.

In conclusion I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, the other members of the panel, and the Secretariat staff for the time and effort expended in regard to this dispute.