

Original: English

UNITED STATES - TARIFF INCREASES AND IMPORT PROHIBITIONS
ON IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL

Request by Brazil for Good Offices of the Director-General

The following communication, dated 15 December 1987, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Brazil with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties.

On November 25th 1987, the Government of Brazil requested consultations with the Government of the United States of America under Article XXIII:I of the General Agreement on the serious disruption and loss of trade caused by the United States Government's announced intention to impose unilateral and discriminatory restrictions to certain Brazilian exports to the United States market (document L/6274).

2. Contrary to the spirit and letter of paragraph 4 of the Decision of 28 November 1979, according to which Contracting Parties "undertake to respond to requests for consultations promptly and to attempt to conclude consultations expeditiously", the United States Government has not as yet indicated its acceptance of bilateral consultations under Article XXIII:I. Therefore, the Government of Brazil has decided to request your good offices with a view to the conciliation of the differences that exist between Brazil and the United States of America in relation to the matter.

3. This request is made under the provisions of the "Understanding regarding Notification, Consultation, Dispute Settlement and Surveillance" adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on November 28, 1979, especially its paragraphs 7, 8 and 9, which inter alia, reaffirm the decision adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on April 5, 1966.

4. I want to stress the seriousness and urgency of the matter and the need to reach prompt and satisfactory solution to protect Brazil's rights under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which my Government considers as already being nullified and impaired and which will suffer further impairment if the United States Government proceeds to raise tariffs on products of Brazilian origin and apply other discriminatory restrictions, as it has announced.