

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## PERU'S PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

### Communication from the Czechoslovak Government

By letter dated 16 September 1954 the Government of Czechoslovakia has requested that the following matter be included in the Provisional Agenda for the Ninth Session:

"By Decree<sup>1</sup> of the President of the Republic of Peru dated 11 March 1953, imports of goods from Czechoslovakia were prohibited. With a view to the fact that the said Decree of the Peruvian President is in contradiction with the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the Czechoslovak Government by its Note of 19 June 1953, and in accordance with Article XXIII of the Agreement appealed to the Government of Peru that the said Decree be revoked. No reply of the Peruvian Government to this Note has been received. Therefore, the Czechoslovak Delegation to the Eighth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES availed itself of that opportunity to take up this matter with the Peruvian Delegation. On 12 October 1953, the Czechoslovak Delegation transmitted a written memorandum to the Peruvian Delegation in which it again called attention to the contents of the Decree of the President of Peru requesting the Peruvian Delegation for information of its Government's position on this question before the end of the Eighth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. This, too, has remained unanswered by the Peruvian Government. With regard to the fact that in spite of the efforts on the part of Czechoslovakia for normalization of trade relations with Peru no satisfactory adjustment has been effected, the Czechoslovak Government refers this question to the CONTRACTING PARTIES."

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<sup>1</sup>The text of the Decree is reproduced overleaf.

DECREE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU  
(11 March 1953)

Considering that commercial exchanges between Peru on the one hand and the Eastern European countries and the People's Republic of China on the other, are thoroughly unfavourable to our country in view of the fact that they result in an increase in Peruvian imports of manufactured products from the said countries without any of them purchasing Peruvian products in return;

Considering that the prices of the products manufactured in those countries cannot be regarded as normal taking account of the various factors which are involved in their production and foreign trade;

Considering further that imports of some of those products are competing harmfully with the national industries of Peru;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC DECREES AS FOLLOWS:

Article I - As of today, imports into Peru from the following countries shall be prohibited: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Roumania, USSR and the People's Republic of China.

Article II - The Customs Administration and the Post Office of the Republic shall refrain from forwarding goods shipped from countries listed in Article I above.

Article III - Goods originating in the countries listed above which have already been shipped or are in the customs warehouse may be forwarded subject in every case to special authorization being granted by Supreme Resolution.

Done in the Casa de Gobierno in Lima this eleventh day of March one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three.

MANUEL A. ODRIA

EMILIO ROMERO