

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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AUSTRIAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

Request by the Netherlands for Consultations under Article XXII

In accordance with the procedures adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 10 November 1958 (BISD, 7th Supplement) the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has informed the Executive Secretary that a request has been addressed to the Government of Austria to engage in consultations under paragraph 1 of Article XXII concerning products the importation of which into Austria from the Netherlands is subject to quantitative restrictions and to discriminatory treatment. The request addressed to the Government of Austria reads in part as follows:

".... the products which particularly interest the Netherlands are those which have repeatedly been subject to discussion during bilateral trade negotiations:

Austrian
Tariff number

ex 0102	Live animals of the bovine species, for slaughter
0103	Live swine
0201	Meat and edible offals of the animals falling within heading numbers 0101, 0102, 0103, 0104. Chilled or frozen
0205 A	Unrendered pig fat, free of lean meat
0206	Meat and edible meat offals, salted, in brine, dried or smoked
1505 A	Lard and other rendered pig fat
1601	Sausages and the like, of meat, meat offal or animal blood
1602	Other prepared meat or preserved meat or meat offal

"These products are not subject to either GATT or OECD liberalization in Austria, whilst there are no global or bilateral quotas available to Netherlands exporters. In so far as tenders are invited for these products, Netherlands exporters have not been allowed to participate. On the other hand - as the Austrian trade statistics show - there are import possibilities for these products open to other meat exporting countries, notably to countries outside GATT, who have obtained bilateral quotas in trade agreements with Austria."

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".... the Netherlands Government is anxious to respond to the readiness expressed by the Government of Austria in its memorandum of 16 November 1962 (GATT document L/1917) to enter into consultations in order to arrive at solutions which take account of the interests of the countries involved."

The Government of the Netherlands has suggested that this consultation should take place in Geneva at the beginning of June 1963. Any contracting party wishing to assert a substantial trade interest and desiring to be joined in the consultation should so inform the Governments of Austria and the Netherlands and also the Executive Secretary, not later than 31 May, in accordance with the procedures referred to above.