

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/88
1 May 1953

Limited Distribution

SPECIAL IMPORT TAXES INSTITUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE
AND
INCREASE OF IMPORT DUTIES ON PRODUCTS SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE XXV

At the Seventh Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES heard a complaint against the "contribution" imposed on certain imports by the Greek Government. The CONTRACTING PARTIES decided to obtain further information concerning the character and incidence of the tax and to resume the examination of the complaint at the Eighth Session.

On 9 April 1953 the Greek Government devalued the drachma by fifty per cent and unified its exchange system by eliminating all multiple currency practices. At the same time the "contribution" was abolished.

An official communication has been received from the Government of Greece notifying the termination of the special import taxes. This appears to dispose of the complaint examined at the Seventh Session.

A second complaint against a measure imposed by the Greek Government concerned the raising of the pre-war tariff co-efficients which had been bound against increase under the General Agreement. At the Seventh Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES were informed that the Government of Greece undertook to restore not later than 1 July 1953 the rates of co-efficient previously in force. No report has yet been received from the Greek Government on plans for the restoration of the pre-war rates.