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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 58

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Tunisia: draft resolution*

Multilateral trade negotiations

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also the Tokyo Declaration of 1973, calling for the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations and setting forth the framework and principles to govern the negotiations, including, inter alia, the principles of non-reciprocity in trade relations between developed and developing countries, special and differential treatment for developing countries, and securing additional benefits for the international trade of developing countries,

Recalling also the modified Part IV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on co-operation and development, stipulating that developed countries should not expect reciprocity in their trade relations with developing countries,

Recalling also United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolutions 82 (III) of 20 May 1972 2/ and 91 (IV) of 30 May 1976, 3/ in which the Conference recognized the importance of the multilateral trade negotiations for the developing countries,

* The draft resolution is submitted by the delegation of Tunisia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77.

1/ See General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Twentieth Supplement (Sales No. GATT/1974-1), p. 19.

2/ Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex I.A.

3/ Ibid., Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

/...

Recalling further that the multilateral trade negotiations were aimed at the achievement of the expansion and liberalization of world trade in favour of developing countries,

Noting with concern the developments in the multilateral trade negotiations and the virtual exclusion of the interests of developing countries from the process of negotiations,

Concerned that developed countries are insisting on reciprocal concessions from developing countries in the field of trade and that the developing countries may emerge with a negative balance sheet from the negotiations, both in substantive and normative areas,

Emphasizing that the vital interests of developing countries must be provided for in the outcome of the multilateral trade negotiations,

1. Calls upon the developed countries to abide by agreements arrived at in Tokyo, especially with regard to the principle of non-reciprocity, and special and differential treatment for the developing countries;

2. Declares once again that the results of the negotiations must reflect the following elements:

(a) The substantial reduction and ultimate abolition of tariff and non-tariff restrictions against the trade of developing countries, in particular on products of special interest to developing countries;

(b) The removal of discriminatory and escalatory barriers against developing countries;

(c) The non-application of safeguard measures on a selective basis to the trade of developing countries;

(d) Improvement in the operation of the General Scheme of Preferences to provide wider coverage and deeper cuts on tariffs, bearing in mind the provision of section I.3, paragraph a (x) of its resolution 3202 (S-VI) and section I, paragraph 8, of its resolution 3362 (S-VII) on this subject, as well as the improvement of the system of information on the General Scheme of Preferences in order to enable all developing countries to make better use of the scheme;

3. Reiterates the need for continued efforts aimed at the reform of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the international trade régime in accordance with the principle of special and differential treatment of developing countries;

4. Emphasizes that any new codes or rules in the normative areas of negotiations affecting the trade of developing countries should not be adopted without the full participation of and acceptance by the developing countries;

5. Urges all participants in the multilateral trade negotiations before the closure of the negotiations, to assess jointly the implementation or otherwise, of the objectives of the Tokyo Declaration ^{1/} concerning additional benefits to the developing countries and to take corrective measures as necessary in the light of such a review;

6. Urges the developed countries to extend full co-operation to ensure the successful conclusion of the current multilateral trade negotiations, giving full regard to the special needs and circumstances of developing countries and bearing in mind their just demands for an equitable international trading system in line with the Tokyo Declaration;

7. Invites the Director General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to present to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the results of the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations:

8. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the evaluation of the multilateral trade negotiations carried out at the fifth session of the Conference, as well as the recommendations emerging therefrom.
