

REQUEST/OFFER APPROACH

Method of negotiating tariff and NTB reductions whereby each country identifies its particular interests (i.e. requests) in other countries' markets. Countries thus respond to these requests with offers which form the basis for negotiation, and indicate what they would liberalize in exchange.

RETALIATION

Action taken by a country to restrain imports from a country that had increased a tariff or imposed other measures that adversely affect the first country's exports. The retaliation is usually tailored to maintain a balance of GATT concessions and aims at related products.

RULES OF ORIGIN

A set of rules used to differentiate between goods originating in one country from those originating in another for the purpose of application of trade measures such as tariffs. Such rules are very important for countries which are members of a free-trade area to ensure that only goods originating in one or all of the member countries will receive preferential tariff treatment.

SAFEGUARDS

Refers mainly to emergency actions under Article XIX of the GATT in the form of additional duties or import quotas applied to fairly traded imports which cause or threaten serious injury to domestic producers.

SEASONAL TARIFF

The application of different tariffs on products depending on the season in which they are imported, e.g. higher tariffs on imports during the importing country's growing season for agricultural products.

SELECTIVITY

Targeting border measures in safeguards cases to particular supplying countries rather than applying the measures to all GATT members.

SPECIFIC TARIFF

Rate of customs duty specified as amount payable per unit of quantity rather than as a percentage of the value of the import.