

As a means of advancing trade with the developing countries and thereby promoting their economic development, the National Chamber favors:

1. The encouragement, by all reasonable means, of the expansion of developing countries' exports to enable them to take their place among the trading nations of the world.

2. The integration of national economies, through arrangements which will promote trade both among the participating nations and with other nations as it becomes economically advantageous. These arrangements should avoid perpetuating protection of noncompetitive enterprises and should seek the maximum degree of unrestricted trade.

3. Careful consideration and analysis of proposals for the extension of temporary tariff preferences to exports of developing countries. Such extension by the United States should be in concert with other industrialized nations, whereby such nationals would share in granting preferences on a basis of equality to developing countries. Such preferences should be periodically reviewed to determine their continuance. These preferences would be most effective in collaboration with increased foreign private investment. The preferences should be in connection with understandings and agreements, participated in by the developing countries to provide protection and stability for such investment under principles of international law. These understandings and agreements should include the usual stipulations as to performance of contractual obligations relating to foreign investment.

3. NONTARIFF BARRIERS

Calls for the "greatest possible relaxation of discriminatory and restrictive trade and investment practices which reduce the flow of goods and services and the volume of international payments, and which obstruct production, distribution, and economic growth, such as: exchange controls, quotas, preferential or discriminatory treatment, monopolies, subsidies, bilateral trade and exchange agreements, or other devices. * * *" This policy also states that the Chamber "supports a trade agreements program which provides the government with adequate authority exercised through the proper agencies for negotiation and administration to make effective agreements for the selective adjustment of tariffs and the orderly and gradual reduction of other barriers to world trade. Such adjustments should be accompanied by comparable or appropriate tariff reductions and the elimination of trade restrictions, whether in the form of quotas, exchange controls, or otherwise, on the part of foreign nations. * * *"

Nontariff barriers are frequently more significant impediments to trade than are tariffs; and as tariffs become less restrictive, nontariff barriers tend to be greater restraints on trade. These restraints are thorny and difficult to negotiate.

Nontariff barriers, for the most part, were left intact at the conclusion of the Kennedy Round. They must not be long neglected.

No meaningful or definitive effort appears to have been made in or out of government to develop the required information.

It is recommended, therefore, that the National Chamber, in cooperation with its organization and business members, undertake immediately a study to identify, catalog, and propose effective ways to eliminate nontariff barriers which inhibit the access of goods to foreign markets and which significantly otherwise impair the healthy expansion of trade.