

3. A shift from direct taxation or social security charges (which are not rebatable) to indirect taxation (which is) to the extent that the former taxes were shifted into final prices or the latter are not so shifted (such a change was effected in Italy);

4. Upward changes in adjustments for so-called "taxes occultes" (indirect taxes charged on certain inputs, such as fuel, at some earlier stage of production) or for cascade type taxes because of earlier under-rebating (such changes were effected in the United Kingdom and Germany).

The greatest promise for ironing out inequities arising from trade-favorable effects of border tax adjustments lies perhaps in treating them in a manner similar to that now applying to changes in tariffs. The recent discussions within the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which aimed at a standstill on border taxes with possible countervailing concessions for changes with definite trade effects—such as those cited above—point in this direction. Such a system of countervailing concessions, broadened to not only achieve a standstill in, but perhaps also a rollback of, border tax adjustments, would solve the problem of distorting effects on the trade patterns between two countries with different tax systems. However, beyond this there still remains the problem of trade effects in third markets, which may require further accommodation, such as possible selective waivers of GATT rules currently prohibiting export subsidies.