

Declaration by the Council of Ministers in response to the address given by John F. Kennedy (1962)

Caption: In 1962, the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community (EEC) reacts to the address given by US President, John F. Kennedy, on international trade.

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Declaration by the Council in response to the speech by John F. Kennedy (1962)

The Council of the European Economic Community, having noted the statement of 25 January 1962 by the President of the United States on the subject of international trade, and having been informed of the progress made in the tariff negotiations in Geneva between the Commission and various Contracting Parties to the General Agreement,

HOPES that further progress will be made in the reduction of customs duties, so as to contribute to the expansion of international trade, and draws attention to the part which the industrial countries in particular are called upon to play in this field;

NOTES that the XIXth Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has in this context expressed itself in favour of new methods of tariff negotiation likely to produce more satisfactory results than the traditional method of negotiating heading by heading;

IS CONVINCED in the light of experience that it is essential for all parties concerned to have equivalent legal powers if any new multilateral effort in the tariff sector is to prove effective.