

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/30

30 September 1952

Limited Distribution

THE TORQUAY PROTOCOL

Requests for Extension of the Time Limit for Signature

1. The Torquay Protocol fixed 21 October 1951 as the final date for its signature by contracting parties and acceding governments. The Protocol has now been signed by all contracting parties and acceding governments with the exception of Brazil, Nicaragua, Korea, the Philippines and Uruguay. The Government of Uruguay has also not signed the Annex Protocol.

2. At the Sixth Session, at the request of Brazil, Korea, Philippines and Uruguay, the Contracting Parties granted the following extensions of the time limit for signature:

Brazil and Nicaragua:	31 December 1951
Korea:	31 March 1952
Philippines:	22 May 1952
Uruguay:	30 April 1952

3. In April and May 1952, requests for a further extension were received from the Governments of Korea and the Philippines. By their Decision of 15 July (by postal ballot), the Contracting Parties extended the time limit for these two Governments to 15 October 1952. Although no request had been received from Brazil or Nicaragua, they were covered by this further extension in order to give them another opportunity to sign the Protocol.

Brazil and Nicaragua

4. On 13 November the Governments of Brazil and Nicaragua were informed of the Decision of 24 October 1951. On 30 January 1952 the Executive Secretary wrote again to the two Governments enquiring whether they would sign the Protocol if a further extension were granted. On 25 April, the Executive Secretary informed these Governments that he proposed to submit to the Contracting Parties a decision, to be taken by postal ballot, to extend the time limit to October 1952 and asked whether such a procedure would be acceptable and, if so, whether they could sign the Protocol within the extended time limit, if granted. No reply has been received to any of these communications.

5. It has been reported in the Fortnightly Review of the Bank of London and South America (20 September 1952) that the President of Brazil has submitted the Torquay Protocol to Congress for approval.

Korea

6. The Korean Government's request of 4 April 1952 for a six-months' extension of the time limit is reproduced in document L/12.

The Philippines

7. The Philippine Government's request of 20 May 1952 for an extension of the time limit until 21 May 1953 is reproduced in L/12.

Uruguay

8. No communication in this connection has been received from the Government of Uruguay since the Sixth Session except a letter dated 22 August 1952 advising that legislation was submitted to Parliament on 23 July seeking authority to sign the Torquay Protocol.

Points for Decision

Whether further extension of time should be granted to:

<u>Brazil and Nicaragua</u>	-	paragraph 4 & 5
<u>Korea</u>	-	paragraph 6
<u>Philippines</u>	-	paragraph 7
<u>Uruguay</u>	-	paragraph 8

