

Tariff Negotiations

STATUS OF COLOMBIAN NEGOTIATIONS

The Executive Secretary has received joint letters from Colombia and the United States, and Colombia and Benelux requesting that these two negotiations "should be considered as 'uncompleted negotiations' which, it is hoped, may be concluded at a later date."

A letter was also addressed to the Executive Secretary by the leader of the Colombian delegation, dated August 29, stating that Colombia withdrew its application to accede to the General Agreement at this time. The text of this letter is as follows:

"The Delegation of Colombia to the Ancey meetings made all efforts to terminate the corresponding negotiations for its country's entrance to the GATT and notified the Secretariat in due time of the results.

Many negotiations were terminated, but it was not possible to conclude those with the United States and Benelux, of which the Secretariat was also advised in jointly signed notes. These two negotiations have been considered as "uncompleted negotiations" to be terminated at a future date.

In accordance with what we agreed during our conversations with Mr. Wyndham White, Executive Secretary, and inasmuch as the most important negotiations for Colombia are those with the United States and these have not been concluded, Colombia has requested to those countries with whom it finished negotiations at Ancey that they agree to consider them as "in suspense" until the "uncompleted negotiations" are terminated.

In these circumstances, the delegation of Colombia withdraws its application to accede to the General Agreement at this time on the understanding that the Government of Colombia may possibly wish to renew their application to accede at a future date."

As most of the schedules have already been numbered, it is suggested that the listing of the schedules remains the same with the omission of Schedule XXI reserved for Colombia. It is also expected that the delegations will not wish to modify their schedules in view of the withdrawal of Colombia, as the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Ancey Protocol of Accession or of paragraph 4 of the Ancey Decision of Terms of Accession fully reserve their right to withhold or withdraw the concessions negotiated with Colombia at Ancey.