

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/108  
21 August 1953

Limited Distribution

---

ARTICLE XXVIII - APPLICATION OF THE SCHEDULES

Proposal to prolong the Assured Life of the Schedules  
beyond 31 December 1953

The Ad Hoc Committee on Agenda and Intersessional Business, at its meeting on 17 to 20 August, discussed the proposal put forward by the Chairman in his note L/93 for a further extension of the firm validity of the tariff concessions provided for in the schedules annexed to the Agreement. The Committee instructed the Executive Secretary to draft an instrument which could serve this purpose.

Accordingly, the following draft declaration has been prepared for consideration by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the Eighth Session. This draft constitutes a self-denying ordinance whereby the contracting parties would undertake not to invoke the provisions of Article XXVIII for a further period of eighteen months.

DRAFT  
DECLARATION  
ON THE CONTINUED APPLICATION OF THE SCHEDULES  
TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Declaration of 10 October 1953

The contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (hereinafter referred to as "the General Agreement"),

CONSIDERING that, under the provisions of Article XXVIII (as amended), the assured life of the concessions embodied in the schedules annexed to the General Agreement will expire on 31 December 1953, in the sense that thereafter it will become possible for a contracting party by negotiation with other contracting parties to modify or cease to apply the treatment which it has agreed to accord under Article II to any products described in its schedule

CONSIDERING that, although by the terms of the Agreement the schedules will retain their full validity notwithstanding the expiry of their assured life, the possibility of invocation by contracting parties of the procedure of Article XXVIII for modification of specific concessions would impair the security which the trading community has enjoyed through the stability of tariff rates which has been one of the principal achievements of the General Agreement, and

CONSIDERING FURTHER that it would be particularly undesirable to arrive at such a result at a time when a number of contracting parties are studying ways and means of making further progress towards the elimination of barriers to trade and towards the achievement of the other objectives of the General Agreement,

HEREBY DECLARE that they will not invoke prior to 1 July 1955 the provisions of Article XXVIII paragraph 1 of the General Agreement to modify or cease to apply the treatment which they have agreed to accord under Article II of the General Agreement to any product described in the appropriate schedule annexed to the General Agreement.

The provisions of this Declaration shall not apply to concessions initially negotiated with a government with respect to which this Declaration is not in effect.

The original of this Declaration shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who is authorized to register this Declaration in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall promptly furnish a certified copy of this Declaration to each Member of the United Nations, to each other government which participated in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment, and to any other interested government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective representatives, duly authorized, have signed the present Declaration.

DONE at Geneva, in a single copy, in the English and French languages, both texts authentic, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three.