

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/998
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Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES
Fourteenth Session

NINTH PROTOCOL OF RECTIFICATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Opening for Signature and Inclusion of Rectifications to Schedule XXXII - Austria

At the thirteenth session the CONTRACTING PARTIES decided (BISD, Seventh Supplement, paragraphs 114/115) that the draft Ninth Protocol of Rectifications and Modifications be circulated thirty days before the opening of the fourteenth session and that "if there are no objections to the draft protocol, the secretariat should open it for signature on the first day of the fourteenth session".

The circulation of the draft Protocol was however held up by the delayed submission of some of the draft schedules which were to compose it. In circulating the draft on 11 May 1958, the secretariat consequently suggested (Spec(59)84) that the examination and any discussions take place in the course of the session so that, if there were no objections, the Protocol could be opened for signature before the end of the present session.

Several delegations have however indicated that they have not yet been able to complete the checking of the draft protocol. Furthermore, some countries whose schedules are contained in the Protocol are carrying out renegotiations under Article XXVIII, the results of which could be advantageously incorporated in the Protocol.

The date of opening for signature of the Protocol is therefore postponed to 15 July 1959, contracting parties which have not yet completed their examinations of the draft, or of any part of it, should, before the end of the present session, inform the secretariat and the delegations concerned. It is hoped that all contracting parties will do their utmost to secure a prompt clearance of this Protocol.

As contracting parties are aware, the Austrian Government has submitted a list of rectifications to Schedule XXXII - Austria (L/981). In view of the further time available it is suggested that contracting parties examine this list and, if they wish clarification, approach the Austrian Government without delay and inform the secretariat. If no objections are raised against these rectifications the secretariat will include them in the Ninth Protocol of Rectifications and Modifications when it is opened for signature.

