

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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BRAZILIAN SCHEDULE - RENEGOTIATION

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 12 March 1969, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Brazil with the request that it be considered at a forthcoming meeting of the Council.

On 25 November 1968 (GATT document L/3146), the CONTRACTING PARTIES decided to extend until 30 March 1969 the time-limit provided in paragraph 3 of the Decision of 27 February 1967 (BISD, Fifteenth Supplement, page 75), suspending the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Brazil to apply the rates of duty provided in its new customs tariff, provided - among other conditions - that the Government of Brazil entered into negotiations or consultations pursuant to Article XXVIII and completed them before 29 February 1968.

2. Since then, Brazil and the interested contracting parties have been conducting the pertinent negotiations, with positive results. In fact, in the original Schedule III, Brazil had tariff commitments with eighteen contracting parties. This number was reduced to fifteen after the formation of the European Economic Community. Up to this date, negotiations for the recomposition of Schedule III have been definitively concluded with two contracting parties; negotiations concerning initial negotiator rights have been concluded with ten other contracting parties. With only three contracting parties the negotiations have not yet been terminated even on a technical level, due to the volume and nature of the concessions involved.

3. Under these circumstances and due to the material impossibility to close these negotiations before 30 March 1969, the Brazilian Government submits that a further extension, until the end of the twenty-sixth session, of the waiver granted to it by the Decision of 27 February 1967 is indeed indispensable. It is expected that this additional period will be sufficient for the solution of problems still outstanding.