

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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PROVISIONAL ACCESSION OF TUNISIA

The Director-General has received the following communication from the representative of Tunisia requesting a further extension of the Declaration on Provisional Accession which, under the Sixth Procès-Verbal dated 16 December 1969, will expire on 31 December 1970.

Just one year ago, disastrous floods caused serious damage to Tunisia's infrastructure and economic production which it will take four to five years to repair. Serious disturbances have resulted in export trade, and the trade balance and balance of payments have been adversely affected.

Adjustments have had to be made to the economic and social objectives defined in our four-year development plan covering the period 1969-1972.

One of the consequences of this situation has been a further revision of our draft customs tariff, which had already reached a very advanced stage of preparation.

For all these reasons the Tunisian Government, which remains resolved to accede definitively to the General Agreement, is not in a position to contemplate negotiations for accession this year. The extension of the arrangement for the provisional accession of Tunisia will expire, however, on 31 December 1970.

I therefore have the honour to advise you, for whatever action may be appropriate, that the Tunisian Government intends to request a further one-year extension of the Declaration of 12 November 1959.

To facilitate consideration of this request at the next Council meeting, the secretariat has drawn up a draft procès-verbal extending the Declaration on provisional accession and a draft decision prolonging the invitation to Tunisia to participate in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. These drafts are annexed hereto.

A note on the present status of the Declaration is also annexed.

Annex 1

SEVENTH PROCES-VERBAL EXTENDING THE DECLARATION ON
THE PROVISIONAL ACCESSION OF TUNISIA

Draft

The parties to the Declaration of 12 November 1959 on the Provisional Accession of Tunisia to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (hereinafter referred to as "the Declaration" and "the General Agreement", respectively),

Acting pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Declaration,

Agree that

1. The validity of the Declaration is extended by changing the date in paragraph 6 to "31 December 1971".
2. This Procès-Verbal shall be deposited with the Director-General to the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement. It shall be open for acceptance, by signature or otherwise, by Tunisia and by the participating governments. It shall become effective between the Government of Tunisia and any participating government as soon as it shall have been accepted by the Government of Tunisia and such government.
3. The Director-General shall furnish a certified copy of this Procès-Verbal and a notification of each acceptance thereof to the Government of Tunisia and to each contracting party to the General Agreement.

Done at Geneva this day of , one thousand nine hundred and seventy in a single copy in the English and French languages, both texts being authentic.

Annex 2

FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE DECISION OF 12 NOVEMBER 1959
INVITING TUNISIA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE
CONTRACTING PARTIES

Draft

Considering that the parties to the Declaration of 12 November 1959 on the Provisional Accession of Tunisia to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade are taking steps, pursuant to paragraph 6 of that Declaration, to extend further the period of validity of the Declaration:

The CONTRACTING PARTIES

Decide to extend further the period of validity of the Decision of 12 November 1959, which provided for the participation of Tunisia in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, until the Government of Tunisia accedes to the General Agreement under the provisions of Article XXXIII or until 31 December 1971, whichever date is earlier.

Annex 3STATUS OF PROVISIONAL ACCESSION

The validity of the Declaration of 12 November 1959 was extended by the Sixth Procès-Verbal of 16 December 1969 until 31 December 1970.

The Declaration is in force between Tunisia and the following Governments, which have accepted both the Declaration and the Sixth Procès-Verbal:

Australia	Pakistan
Belgium	Poland
Czechoslovakia	Spain
Greece	Sweden
India	Turkey
Japan	United Arab Republic
Netherlands, Kingdom of the	United States
Norway	

The following Governments, having accepted the Declaration, have not yet accepted the Sixth Procès-Verbal:

Austria ¹	Gambia	New Zealand
Barbados	Germany, Fed. Rep. of	Niger
Brazil	Ghana	Nigeria
Burundi	Guyana	Peru
Canada	Indonesia	Rhodesia
Central African Rep.	Israel	Rwanda
Ceylon	Ivory Coast	Senegal
Chad	Jamaica	Sierra Leone
Chile	Kenya	Switzerland
Congo (Brazzaville)	Kuwait	Tanzania
Cuba	Luxembourg	Togo
Cyprus	Madagascar	Trinidad and Tobago
Dahomey	Malawi	Uganda
Denmark	Malaysia	United Kingdom
Finland	Malta	Upper Volta
France	Mauritania	Uruguay
Gabon	Mauritius	Yugoslavia

¹ Accepted the Sixth Procès-Verbal subject to ratification.