

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 Ninth Procès-Verbal dated 7 November 1973, will expire on 31 December 1975.

I have the honour to advise you that the Tunisian Government requests a further extension of the Declaration of 12 November 1959 on the Provisional Accession of Tunisia to GATT, due to expire on 31 December 1975.

Indeed, the application of Tunisia's new customs tariff, which was promulgated in July 1973, has revealed technical imperfections in both form and substance.

-- As regards form, a defect has been found in the classification and the breakdown of several tariff headings.

- As to substance, the structure of the customs duty rates has proved not to be consistent with Tunisia's economic reality and with the prospects under the Plan.

Work is already proceeding in the various departments concerned in order to remedy this situation and make the necessary amendments to finalize the tariff.

Since these amendments are bound to take some time, it would be difficult for Tunisia to enter into negotiations at this juncture with a view to definitive accession to the General Agreement.

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

Tenth Procès-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 1977".
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-five 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 1977 whichever date is earlier.

PORTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE ILLEGIBLE

ANNEX 3

Status of Provisional Accession

The validity of the Declaration of 12 November 1959 was extended by the Ninth Procès-Verbal of 7 November 1973 until 31 December 1975.

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

Austria	India	Pakistan
Brazil	Japan	Poland
Egypt	Malta	Sweden
Germany, F.R.	Netherlands	Turkey
		United States

The following Governments having accepted the Declaration, have so far not accepted the Ninth Procès-Verbal:

Australia	Ghana	New Zealand
Belgium	Greece	Niger
Canada	Indonesia	Nigeria
Central African Republic	Israel	Norway
Chad	Ivory Coast	Peru
Chile	Jamaica	Senegal
Cuba	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Czechoslovakia	Kuwait	Spain
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Sri Lanka
Dahomey	Madagascar	Switzerland
Denmark	Malawi	Tanzania
Finland	Malaysia	United Kingdom
France	Mauritius	Uruguay
		Yugoslavia

The following Governments, having succeeded to the Declaration, have not accepted the Ninth Procès-Verbal:

Barbados	Guyana	Uganda
Gambia	Trinidad and Tobago	Upper Volta