

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

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ADMISSION OF MACAO AS A CONTRACTING PARTY

Certification by the Director-General

The following communication from the Permanent Representative of Portugal was received in the Secretariat on 11 January 1991.

I am instructed by the Government of the Portuguese Republic to declare that Macao, being a separate customs territory, in respect of which Portugal has accepted the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in accordance with Part I, Article 3(a) and Part III, Article 11 of the Protocol for the Accession of Portugal to the GATT of 6 April 1962, possesses full autonomy in the conduct of its external commercial relations and of the other matters provided for in the General Agreement. In accordance with the provisions of Article XXVI:5(c) of the said General Agreement and with the wishes of Macao, Macao will, with effect from the date of this Declaration, be deemed to be a contracting party to the General Agreement.

I am also instructed to state that, having regard to the Joint Declaration of the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the question of Macao, signed in Beijing on 13 April 1987, the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Macao with effect from 20 December 1999 and that until 19 December 1999 the Government of the Portuguese Republic will continue to have the responsibility for the external relations of Macao.

Since the conditions required by Article XXVI:5(c) have been met, Macao has become a contracting party; its rights and obligations date from 11 January 1991.