

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

W.47/18

28 November 1991

Limited Distribution

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CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Forty-Seventh Session

Original: French

### ZAIRE - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXVIII

#### Extension of Time-Limit

The following communication, dated 22 November 1991, has been received from the Government of the Republic of Zaire with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties and considered by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their forty-seventh session.

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I have the honour to request, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Zaire, the extension until 31 December 1992 of the waiver granted to Zaire.

In the communication reproduced in GATT SECRET/332 of 12 July 1990, the Government of the Republic of Zaire provided contracting parties with part of the necessary documentation for the renegotiation of the new schedule of concessions. The other part, consisting of imports statistics and transmitted on 18 February 1991, was returned to the Government of Zaire for revision and harmonization.

It has not been possible to complete the work subsequently carried out for the required revision owing to the recent dramatic developments that shook the country last September, during which, among other things, the computer unit of the Customs Services responsible for collecting and processing foreign trade statistics was ransacked.

In view of this situation, and having regard to the time constraints inherent in the Governmental and customs administration reorganization that is under way, the transitional Government of the Republic of Zaire appeals to the GATT secretariat and the contracting parties for their understanding and asks the latter to give favourable consideration to this request.

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To facilitate consideration of this matter, the text of a draft Decision is annexed.

ANNEX

ZAIRE - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXVIII

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by their Decision of 5 December 1989<sup>1</sup>, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of the Republic of Zaire to implement its new tariff resulting from a thorough reorganization and the introduction of Harmonized System, and subsequently to conduct negotiations;

Noting that the statistical documentation transmitted to the GATT secretariat on 18 February 1991 for circulation to the contracting parties has had to be revised by the Governmental authorities of Zaire;

Taking account of the fact that it has not been possible for the Government of the Republic of Zaire to complete this work;

Considering that the Government has requested an extension of this waiver until 31 December 1992;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of Article XXV:5 of the General Agreement,

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances to extend the time-limit provided for in the Decision of 5 December 1989 until 31 December 1992.

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<sup>1</sup>BISD, 36S/434