

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

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### KAZAKHSTAN - REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS

The Director-General has received the following communication, dated 26 August 1992, from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.

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I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. S.A. Tereshchenko, in which he requests that GATT observer status should be granted to Kazakhstan.

I hope the request of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan will be granted.

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### Text of letter from the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan

The Republic of Kazakhstan, as a sovereign State, is undertaking a wide-ranging programme of economic reforms, among which great importance is attached to the establishment of economic and trade relations with foreign countries, based on international rules and regulations.

In addition, Kazakhstan is doing all it can to co-operate actively with international organizations and banks. In particular, the Law "on the membership of the Republic of Kazakhstan of the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, the International Development Association, the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes" was passed. Kazakhstan plans to establish links with the international organizations concerned on customs matters in particular. Thus, during the seventy-ninth and eightieth sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council in Brussels, the Republic of Kazakhstan was admitted as a full member to that organization. The Commission of the European Communities welcomed the admission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the CCC.

The next step, a very important one for Kazakhstan, would be to establish links with GATT.

The Cabinet of the Republic of Kazakhstan therefore considers that Kazakhstan's participation in the multilateral activities of GATT would be wholly beneficial, and submits its request to you for the granting of observer status with your Organization.