

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/7102

23 October 1992

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
4 November 1992

Original: English

MALAWI - RENEGOTIATION OF SCHEDULE LVIII

The following communication, dated 17 September 1992, has been received from the Delegation of Malawi.

In accordance with the procedures of negotiations under the relevant GATT rules and pursuant to the Decision of the Customs Co-operation Council that the tariff nomenclature (CCCN) be replaced by the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) on 1 January 1988, the Government of Malawi has decided to request for a waiver in order to renegotiate a new schedule.

The Government has completed the transposition of its Customs Tariff from the CCCN to the Harmonized System. Furthermore, Malawi experienced external economic pressure in the recent years which created external and internal imbalances in the balance of payments and budget and thus creating the need for a more flexible use of tariff protection. The process of system conversion and the balance-of-payments problems of a least-developed country such as Malawi, have entailed changes in tariff rates of some items.

Malawi is ready to enter into negotiations or consultations with any interested party under the relevant provisions of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement.

In order to enable Malawi to effectively implement the Harmonized System, Malawi therefore requests a temporary waiver from its obligations under Article II until 31 December 1993 in order to renegotiate the tariff schedule in question.

The relevant documentation will be circulated separately.