

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

L/7150

9 December 1992

Limited Distribution

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### ARGENTINA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXIV

Decision of 3 December 1992

Considering that the Government of Argentina, in a communication dated 22 October 1992<sup>1</sup>, has informed the CONTRACTING PARTIES that it has completed the transposition of the Argentine Customs Tariff into the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) and that it decided to apply the Harmonized System as from 1 January 1992;

Noting that the Government of Argentina based its decision on the need to speed up the process, as practically all the country's trading partners have already implemented the Harmonized System, in accordance with the decision of the Customs Co-operation Council;

Considering that the Harmonized System documentation required in accordance with the procedures under Article XXVIII will be submitted very shortly to the GATT Secretariat and circulated to contracting parties as soon as possible;

Noting that the Government of Argentina has emphasized that, during the conversion process, there has been no modification of product descriptions, tariff rates applied to bound items or initial negotiating rights; and that nevertheless Argentina is prepared to conduct consultations with any interested contracting parties under the procedures established in Article XXVIII of the General Agreement;

Considering that, as the Argentine Harmonized System has been in force since the above-mentioned date, the Argentine Government has requested a temporary exemption from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 30 June 1993;

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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to suspend the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to enable the Government of Argentina to apply the Harmonized System, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Government of Argentina will promptly enter into negotiations and consultations with interested contracting parties pursuant to paragraphs 1-3 of Article XXVIII.

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<sup>1</sup>L/7108.

2. The negotiations and consultations mentioned above shall be completed not later than 30 June 1993.
3. Pending the entry into force of the results of the negotiations or consultations mentioned above, the other contracting parties will be free to suspend concessions initially negotiated with Argentina to the extent that they consider that adequate compensation is not offered by the Government of Argentina.