

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

L/7291
26 August 1993

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Limited Distribution

JAMAICA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXVI

Decision of 20 August 1993¹

Considering that, in a communication dated 6 July 1993 (L/7263), the Government of Jamaica has notified the CONTRACTING PARTIES that, in accordance with the Decision of the Customs Co-operation Council to replace the CCCN by the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 January 1988, the Government of Jamaica implemented the Harmonized System on 15 February 1991;

Noting that this action was taken in the context of the introduction by the Government of Jamaica of the Common External Tariff adopted by the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM) Member States;

Considering that the relevant documentation as outlined in document L/5470/Rev.1 is under preparation, and that in the conversion process, the Government of Jamaica will endeavour to maintain, to the extent possible, the level of the tariff rates bound in its Schedule;

Considering that Jamaica would be ready, if necessary, to carry out consultations and negotiations in respect of any changes in its Schedule of concessions resulting from the transposition into the Harmonized System under the provisions of Article XXVIII;

Noting that, in view of the above, the Government of Jamaica has requested to be temporarily exempted from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 31 July 1994;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of Article XXV:5 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 Jamaica to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, subject to the following conditions:

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¹The Decision was adopted by postal ballot. There were 71 votes in favour and none against.

1. The Government of Jamaica will promptly enter into negotiations and consultations with interested contracting parties pursuant to paragraphs 1-3 of Article XXVIII.
2. The negotiations and consultations mentioned above shall be completed not later than 31 July 1994.
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 the Government of Jamaica to the extent that they consider that adequate compensation is not offered by Jamaica.