GENERAL AGREEMENT

ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Committee on Tariff Concessions

Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 December 1993

Chairman: H.E. Mr. Ernesto Tironi (Chile)

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1. Adoption of the agenda

1.1 The **Chairman** welcomed the participants to the second meeting of the Committee in 1993 convened by GATT/AIR/3524 dated 1 December 1993. The agenda was **adopted** without modification.

2. Proposal by Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries

2.1 The **Chairman** recalled that following the last meeting of the Committee held on 20 October 1993 at which the Swedish proposal on the extensions of the Harmonized System waivers was discussed, he had held some consultations . He submitted to the Committee the text of a proposal which derived from those consultations, for consideration by the members of the Committee. He explained that the proposal called for the Committee to report twice a year to the Council on its activities and, under the item related to "Ongoing negotiations and submission of HS documentation by contracting parties under waivers" the factual information listed in the document which had just been distributed to all the members of the Committee, would be contained in an annex to the report. The proposal was **agreed**. The text of the proposal is reproduced in the Annex.

2.2 The **Chairman** pointed out that he would inform the Chairman of the Council about the agreement reached by the Committee and thanked all the members for their cooperation.

3. Report of the Committee to the Council

3.1 The **Chairman** drew the attention of the Committee members to the draft report on the activities of the Committee which had been made available in English, French and Spanish in document TAR/Spec/9. The report was examined paragraph by paragraph and it was agreed that it would be revised and completed in light of the discussion that took place at the meeting. The revised report was subsequently circulated under document TAR/243 and was presented at the Council meeting on 17 December 1993. The report was **adopted**.

ANNEX

Proposal by the Chairman of the Committee on Tariff Concessions on the Requests for Extensions of Waivers

The Committee shall report twice a year on its activities to the Council. Under the item related to "Ongoing negotiations and submission of HS documentation by contracting parties under waivers", the following factual information shall be included:

- Date of original waiver.
- Date of submission of documents relevant to the HS implementation (if no documents have been circulated, reasons therefor).
- Number of extensions and dates when granted.
- Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been initiated.
- Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been concluded.
- Status of outstanding Article XXVIII negotiations as well as a general outline of relevant problems, if any.
- Outlook for concluding the process.