

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

GPR/W/1

23 January 1981

Special Distribution

Original: English

ACCESSION OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 23 December 1980, has been received from the Commission of the European Communities, with the request that it be circulated to all the Chairmen of the Committees and Councils established under the MTN Agreements and Arrangements.

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty signed in Athens on 28 May 1979 concerning the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the European Communities, Greece will become a Member of the European Community with effect from 1 January 1981. By virtue of the fact that the European Community has accepted, by its signature of 17 December 1979, all of the agreements and international arrangements negotiated in the Tokyo Round, the rights and obligations of the Community deriving from these agreements will be applicable, with effect from 1 January 1981, to Greece. In the case of two Agreements, on Technical Barriers to Trade and on Trade in Civil Aircraft, which have also been signed by the Member States of the Community individually, Greece will be completing the formalities of signature in the near future.

This communication is without prejudice to the informal arrangements agreed among the signatories to the agreement on government procurement, whereby, for a transitional period, the full rights and obligations of this agreement will not be applicable between the other signatories and Greece.

I would be grateful if this communication could be circulated to the parties to the Agreements and Arrangements in question.