RESTRICTED

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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Group on Residual Restrictions

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PROCEDURES FOR THE REMOVAL OF RESIDUAL RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING EXPORTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Communication from Niger

In response to GATT/AIR/582, in which contracting parties were invited to submit proposals regarding appropriate improvements in the existing procedures for dealing with remaining residual restrictions affecting the trade of developing countries, the following communication, dated 23 November 1966, has been received from the Government of Niger.

As pointed out in the most recent report of the Group on Residual Restrictions (COM.TD/B/6 of 19 October 1966), developed countries which have accepted Part IV of the General Agreement have thereby committed themselves to accelerate the process of trade liberalization in the interest of developing countries.

So far, however, contracting parties in this category have in general limited themselves to a few adjustments relating to detail, and none of them has explicitly indicated the overall solutions that it would apply in order to carry out its new obligations.

It is, therefore, necessary above all that the developed countries which are contracting parties to the General Agreement should be requested urgently to state within a specified time limit what measures they intend to take in order to implement the provisions of Article XXXVII:1(a) (new) of the General Agreement. Once such statement has been made, it will become appropriate to envisage the possible adjustment of consultation procedures to the particular case of residual restrictions.

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