

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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BRAZILIAN SCHEDULE - RENEGOTIATION

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 24 January 1968, has been received from the Government of Brazil.

1. On 27 February 1967, the CONTRACTING PARTIES decided, subject to certain conditions, to suspend until 29 February 1968 the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Brazil to apply the rates of duty provided in its new Customs Tariff, which might exceed those bound in Schedule III, pending completion of negotiations for the modification or withdrawal of concessions in that Schedule.
2. In order to comply with the first of those conditions that is - "The Government of Brazil will as promptly as possible enter into negotiations and consultations with interested contracting parties pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article XXVIII" - the Brazilian Permanent Delegation in Geneva, acting on instructions from Brasilia, informed the Director-General of GATT, on 13 September 1967, (L/2850) that the Brazilian Government would be prepared to start the negotiations for recomposition of Schedule III, as from 16 October 1967.
3. A delegation specially appointed for those negotiations has been in Geneva since October 1967 and has been conducting negotiations to that end with interested contracting parties. Although significant progress has been achieved with some delegations the negotiations have proved to be more time consuming than originally expected. Besides the inherent complexity of such negotiations, contracting parties have been confronted, since October, with some events out of their control, such as the preparation and the meeting of the twenty-fourth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and preparation of the Second UNCTAD - events which have called for the best of attention and the most of time of all delegations.
4. The Brazilian delegation is prepared and willing to carry on actively the negotiations with a view to conclude them before 29 February, date on which the waiver expires. However, some delegations of interested contracting parties have raised the doubt whether it would be feasible to reach full agreement before that date.
5. In these conditions, and in order to ensure that the waiver does not lapse before all negotiations are concluded, the Brazilian Government requests the CONTRACTING PARTIES for an extension of the time limit established in paragraph 3 of the Decision of 27 February 1967, until the twenty-fifth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

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