GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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CONSULTATION WITH POLAND UNDER PARAGRAPH 7 OF THE PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION

Addendum

Communication from Poland

The following communication, dated 27 October, 1982 has been received from the Permanent Representation of Poland.

I have just received a copy of the notification submitted to you by the United States Trade Representative in Geneva, informing the CONTRACTING PARTIES that the United States is suspending most-favoured nation treatment of Poland under the General Agreement.

A reference is made in the forementioned notification to consultations which are alleged to have taken place between Poland and the United States on 22 October 1982.

As you are already aware from our earlier written communication delivered to your office this morning and forwarded simultaneously to the Office of the United States Representative in Geneva, my authorities have accepted the United States request for bilateral United States-Polish consultations officially submitted to our Representation in Geneva on October 25 and have suggested that the consultations be held in Geneva on 29 October 1982, which is the earliest possible date for our experts to come here from Warsaw.

As such consultations have not yet taken place, the decision suspending Poland's MFN status can only be regarded as taken outside the established procedural GATT framework, with what appears to be a total disregard for the relevant provisions of the General Agreement and the standard GATT practice. We view this development as yet another most serious breach of the fundamental laws and principles of the GATT system and reserve our position for whatever further action may be required to protect our legitimate rights under the General Agreement.

I shall greatly appreciate if you will forward this notification to Contracting Parties for information.