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L/5567

20 October 1983

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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Original: Spanish

URUGUAY - IMPORT SURCHARGES

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 18 October 1983, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Uruguay.

As already notified to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, Uruguay has for some time been engaged in a difficult and complex process of simplifying, reducing and harmonizing its import tariff through the application of a single tax based on the customs valuation (L/4646).

That process is now quite advanced, but the serious world and regional economic situation, with its great impact on the domestic situation, has necessitated re-examination of rectifications already drafted, and this has not made it possible to complete the task of adjusting the concessions included in Schedule XXXI to the new tariff structure in force.

For that reason, an extension is requested of the authorization granted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES for the application of surcharges by Uruguay (document L/5505 of 27 June 1983) until 30 June 1984, at which time it is hoped that the task will have been completed.

It is on that basis that the authorities of Uruguay hope to be able to propose a new Schedule XXXI for examination under the procedures established by the General Agreement.

This request will be considered by the Council at its next meeting.