

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

L/6310

10 March 1988

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
22 March 1988

Original: English

INDONESIA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XXI

Communication from Indonesia

The following communication dated 3 March 1988 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties and considered by the Council at its next meeting.

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has recently completed the process of transposing its Customs Tariff from the CCC Nomenclature to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System). In the light of the completion of the Harmonized System transposition, the Government of Indonesia has also decided that its implementation will begin on 1 April 1988. This decision has been based on the fact that a number of its major trading partners have put into force the Harmonized System on 1 January 1988 in line with the decision made by the Customs Cooperation Council to implement the system on that date.

The Harmonized System documentation required under the procedures of Article XXVIII has already been submitted to the GATT Secretariat and will be circulated to the contracting parties as soon as possible.

Indonesia wishes to emphasize that in the process of conversion, there have been no changes either in product descriptions, tariff rates of bound items or Initial Negotiating Rights. However, Indonesia is prepared to enter into consultations with any interested contracting parties. In view of the time constraint, it will not be possible for Indonesia to conduct consultations under the procedures of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement before the scheduled date of implementation of the Harmonized System.

In order to enable Indonesia to implement the Harmonized System on 1 April 1988, Indonesia therefore requests a temporary exemption from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 31 December 1988.