

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

L/6523

9 June 1989

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
21-22 June 1989

Original: English

BANGLADESH - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXX

Communication from Bangladesh

The following communication dated 8 June 1989 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh 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 invite a reference to the Decision taken by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 18 July 1988 to suspend, until 30 June 1989, the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement with regard to Bangladesh's Schedule LXX (L/6374), thereby exempting Bangladesh from the obligations under Article II so as to enable the Government of Bangladesh to implement, on 1 July 1988, the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System.

Following the aforesaid Decision, intensive work is being carried out by the competent authorities in Bangladesh in order to prepare the Harmonized System documentation necessary for the re-negotiations under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement. However, due to technical difficulties, it has not yet been possible to complete and distribute the required documentation to the contracting parties.

The required documentation is in the final stage of preparation. The GATT secretariat is also extending the technical assistance requested in this connection. It is hoped that the required documentation will be completed and circulated to the contracting parties as soon as possible.

In order to enable Bangladesh to finalize the necessary documentation for consultations and re-negotiations with interested contracting parties in accordance with Article XXVIII, the Government of Bangladesh, therefore, requests a temporary extension of the exemption from her obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 31 December 1989.