GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
21-22 June 1989

PAKISTAN - RENEGOTIATION OF SCHEDULE

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Revision

An extension of the time-limit prescribed in the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 29 November 1977 to waive the obligations under Article II of the General Agreement has been requested by the Government of Pakistan in a communication dated 2 June 1989 (L/6516). The following draft decision is circulated in order to facilitate the consideration by the Council of the request from Pakistan.

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by Decision of 29 November 1977[1], suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Pakistan to maintain in force the rates of duty provided in its revised Customs Tariff, subject to certain specified conditions;

Considering that among the conditions mentioned above was the obligation to conduct negotiations or consultations in conformity with paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article XXVIII and to terminate such negotiations or consultations before 31 December 1979;

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by successive decisions, extended the time-limit for the completion of the negotiations or consultations to be conducted by the Government of Pakistan until 30 June 1989;[2]

Noting that the Government of Pakistan has also advised that it implemented the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) in 1988 and that it will have to enter into another series of Article XXVIII negotiations in connection with the introduction of the Harmonized System;

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[1] BISD 24S/15

[2] L/6458

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Considering that the Government of Pakistan has indicated that a new schedule of concessions in the Harmonized System nomenclature, taking into account the negotiations and consultations already carried out, is being distributed and that the proposed schedule will be finalized after the required negotiations and consultations under Article XXVIII with interested contracting parties;

Noting that Pakistan is in the process of consulting on its draft schedule in the Harmonized System and that understandings have been reached with some of its trading partners, while consultations are under progress with its other trading partners;

Considering that the Government of Pakistan has therefore requested an extension of the time-limit for the conclusion of the negotiations by six months;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article XXV of the General Agreement,

Decide that the time-limit provided for in paragraph 3 of the Decision of 29 November 1977 shall be extended until 31 December 1989.