

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TARIFFS AND TRADE

L/6575

26 October 1989

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL
7-8 November 1989

Original: French

ZAIRE - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXVIII

Communication from the Republic of Zaire

The following communication dated 4 September 1989 has been received from the Government of the Republic of Zaire 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 since 1983 the Republic of Zaire has been engaged in a process of thoroughly re-organizing its tariff of import duties and taxes, the final stage of which is to take place at the end of this year.

This tariff and tax reform has become necessary as a result of the undertakings entered into since then with regard to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in the context of the structural adjustment programmes, the second of which was recently concluded last June.

It should also be noted that, taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the conversion to the Harmonized System, the Republic of Zaire has also made other major changes in its tariff of import duties and taxes out of a concern to resolve awkward problems of tax harmonization that had arisen in that connection.

In carrying out these reforms the Republic of Zaire has found itself unable to maintain the level of certain bound duties and requests, pursuant to Article XXV:5 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, a temporary waiver, until 30 June 1990, of its obligations under Article II of the Agreement.

The Republic of Zaire undertakes to provide the necessary documentation for the consultations and negotiations provided for by the procedures under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement in the hope that it will thus be able to renegotiate the previous tariff concessions with the parties concerned.