

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

COUNCIL
7-8 November 1989

Original: English

TURKEY - STAMP DUTY

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 26 October 1989, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Turkey.

By their Decision of 9 November 1987¹, the CONTRACTING PARTIES decided to relieve the Government of Turkey of the obligations laid down in Article II:1 of the General Agreement, so as to allow it to maintain the stamp duty on imports into Turkey of products included in Schedule XXXVII. Considering that the validity of that Decision will expire on 31 December 1989, I have the honour to inform you that the Turkish authorities request an extension of that Decision in order to be able to further maintain this stamp duty until 31 December 1992.

It should be noted that the rate of the stamp duty has fluctuated in line with economic and financial conditions between 25 and 1 per cent. The current rate is 10 per cent.

It should also be noted that the Government of Turkey assures the contracting parties that once the ongoing process of finding alternative sources of revenue through effective fiscal reforms is completed the stamp duty will be eliminated.

I would be grateful if you would take the necessary action to have the contents of this communication circulated to the contracting parties and to have the Turkish authorities' request placed on the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Council on 7-8 November 1989.

¹ BISD 34S/35.