

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

L/6620

6 December 1989

Limited Distribution

TARIFFS AND TRADE

ZAIRE - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXVIII

Decision of 5 December 1989

Considering that the Government of the Republic of Zaire has informed the CONTRACTING PARTIES that since 1983 it has been engaged in a process of thoroughly reorganizing its tariff of import duties and taxes¹;

Considering that the final stage of this reorganization is to take place at the end of 1989;

Considering that this tax reform has become necessary as a result of the undertakings entered into by the Government of the Republic of Zaire with regard to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in the context of structural adjustment programmes;

Noting likewise that, taking advantage of the occasion of adopting the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System), the Government of the Republic of Zaire has also made other major changes in its tariff of import duties and taxes with a view to resolving awkward problems of tax harmonization that have arisen in that connection;

Taking into account that the Republic of Zaire, in carrying out these reforms, has found itself unable to maintain the level of certain bound duties in its schedule of tariff concessions and has therefore requested that, in accordance with Article XXV:5 of the General Agreement, its obligations under Article II of the Agreement be temporarily waived until 30 June 1990;

Noting furthermore that the Government of the Republic of Zaire undertakes to provide the necessary documentation for the consultations and negotiations provided for under Article XXVIII in the hope that it will be able to renegotiate the former tariff concessions of the Republic of Zaire with the parties concerned;

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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to suspend the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement in order to enable the Government of the Republic of Zaire to implement its new tariff, subject to the following conditions:

¹L/6575.

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1. The Government of the Republic of Zaire shall engage forthwith in negotiations and consultations with the contracting parties concerned in accordance with Article XXVIII, paragraphs 1-3;
2. The above negotiations and consultations shall be completed by 30 June 1990;
3. Pending the entry into force of the results of the above negotiations or consultations, the other contracting parties shall be free to suspend the concessions initially negotiated with the Republic of Zaire in so far as they consider that the Government of the Republic of Zaire does not offer sufficient compensation.