

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/6634

12 January 1990

Limited Distribution

Original: English

PROTOCOL FOR THE ACCESSION OF POLAND

Communication from Poland

The following communication, dated 10 January 1990, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Poland, with the request that this matter be inscribed on the Agenda of the Council meeting to be held on 25 January 1990.

I have the honour to refer to the statement by Mr. Janusz Kaczurba, Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, at the Forty-Fifth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, when he announced Poland's intention to renegotiate the terms of its accession to GATT.

As of 1 January 1990 a set of laws and regulations entered into force which have established an open market economy in Poland. The customs tariff is the effective instrument of Poland's commercial policy.

We believe that as a result of the ongoing changes in the economic and foreign trade system of Poland, a number of provisions in Part I, as well as Part II, of the Protocol have become inadequate. In the opinion of the Polish Government, there is a clear need for changing the provisions in question in order to adapt the Protocol to the market character of the Polish economy.

As it was stated by the Polish representative at the last session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, such a move "would assist the Solidarity-led Government of Poland in its great efforts to build a liberal, efficient and open economy, well integrated into the multilateral trading system".

Acting upon instructions from my Government, I wish to request inclusion of the following item on the Agenda of the next meeting of the Council, which will be held on 25 January 1990: "Protocol for the Accession of Poland - Communication from Poland".

Under the proposed agenda item, we would like to clarify the reasons for the necessity to change Poland's Protocol of Accession to GATT.

We hope that contracting parties will examine favourably our request for appropriate action, including the establishment of a working party, during the meeting of the Council in February 1990.