

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

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Communication from the People's Republic of China

The attached communication, dated 16 January 1990, has been received by the Director-General from the observer from the People's Republic of China.

MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE DE CHINE
A GENÈVE
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Ref. G/90/001

16 January, 1990

Dear Mr. Director-General,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, with reference to the so-called application recently submitted by the Taiwan authorities for accession to the GATT, I am instructed to state to Your Excellency and the GATT contracting parties the principled position of the Chinese Government.

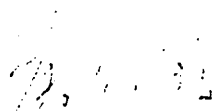
As is known to all, there is only one China in the world. The Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government of China. Taiwan is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory. This has been affirmed by the United Nations system and the GATT. In accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI), the GATT Contracting Parties decided in 1971 to remove the Taiwan authorities from their "observer" status in the GATT. Therefore the Taiwan authorities have no right to apply on their own for accession to the GATT. Now the Taiwan authorities, posing as the government of a sovereign state,

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have gone so far as to apply, on behalf of the so-called "separate customs territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Jinmen and Mazu", for accession to the GATT. This is utterly illegal. The Chinese Government is resolutely opposed to the act committed by the Taiwan authorities of brazenly creating "two Chinas" and "one China, one Taiwan" through international economic organizations, and solemnly requests that GATT should not accept such an illegal application by the Taiwan authorities for consideration and that GATT Council should not take up such an illegal application for discussion.

I shall appreciate it if this communication could be circulated to the contracting parties as soon as possible.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.



(Hou Zhitong)
Ambassador
Charge d'Affairs ad interim
The Permanent Mission
of the People's Republic of China