

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

L/5335

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Original: Spanish

URUGUAY - IMPORT SURCHARGES

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 8 June 1982, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Uruguay.

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As already notified to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, Uruguay is engaged in a process of reducing, simplifying and harmonizing the import tariff through the application of a single customs tax on the value for customs purposes (L/4646) and through the progressive and gradual reduction of the overall rates charged on imports over a period of five years, as from 1 January 1980 (L/4808), although conjunctural difficulties have made it necessary for the Uruguayan authorities to make some adjustments to this process.

Included in this framework is the system of import surcharges (L/4645), the maximum levels of which have been further reduced (Decree 787/979, L/5025).

In order to allow timely completion of the task of adjusting the concessions included in Schedule XXXI to the new tariff structure now in force, an extension is requested of the authorization granted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES for the application of surcharges by Uruguay until 31 December 1982, in terms of the decision adopted by the Council at its meeting on 24 November 1981 (L/5257).

In this sense, my country's authorities hope to be able to present, at the end of the second six months of 1982, a proposed new Schedule XXXI for examination under the procedures established by the General Agreement.

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This request will be considered by the Council at its next meeting.