

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Council for Trade in Goods  
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## SRI LANKA – ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE VI

### Request for Extension of Time-Limit

The following communication, dated 7 September 2000, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka.

I refer to the fax of 4 September 2000, on the above subject.

I have been instructed by my authorities in Sri Lanka to furnish the following information with regard to Sri Lanka's request for extension of time-limit for the current waiver, which expires on 31 October 2000.

1. Date of original waiver: 8 November 1998.
2. Date of submission of document relevant to the HS implementation: 12 January 1990.
3. Number of extensions and dates when granted: 21 extensions, as follows: 24/07/89; 16/07/90; 07/12/90; 01/07/91; 04/12/91; 20/07/92; 03/12/92; 19/07/93; 17/01/94; 21/07/94; 09/12/94; 31/08/95; 13/12/95; 18/07/96; 16/07/97; 22/10/97; 30/04/98; 14/10/98; 15/06/99 (granted with retroactive effect 30/04/99); 04/11/99; and 03/05/2000.
4. Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been initiated: Five (Australia, European Union, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States).
5. Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been concluded: Three.
6. Status of outstanding Article XXVIII negotiations as well as a general outline of relevant problems, if any:

Sri Lanka continues to make every effort to conclude negotiations under Article XXVIII. Following its recent initiatives, Sri Lanka concluded negotiations with New Zealand and Australia. The negotiations with the European Union and the United States are still continuing.

7. Outlook for concluding the process:

Sri Lanka having sought clarification on the status of reservation made by the remaining two countries viz. the European Union and the United States, have had bilateral negotiations in respect of Sri Lanka's schedule. These negotiations are still continuing. Hence, to conclude

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these negotiations with the concerned two trading partners, Sri Lanka may require at least one more extension of time. The Government of Sri Lanka, therefore, will be deeply appreciative of a further extension of six months to conclude the outstanding negotiations. The Government of Sri Lanka assures its trading partners in these negotiations that every effort will be made to conclude the negotiations satisfactorily and in the mutual interest of all concerned as soon as possible.

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