CHILE - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE VII

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

An extension of the time-limit prescribed in the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 5 December 1989 to waive the obligations under Article II of the General Agreement has been requested by the Government of Chile in a communication dated 8 April 1991 (L/6840). The following draft decision is circulated in order to facilitate the consideration by the Council of the request from Chile.

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by Decision of 5 December 1989, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Chile to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 January 1990 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Considering that intensive work is being carried out by the competent authorities in Chile in order to prepare the Harmonized System documentation required to carry out negotiations under Article XXVIII, but that, due to technical difficulties, it has not yet been possible to complete and distribute it as foreseen;

Noting that the Government of Chile has requested an extension of the waiver until 31 December 1991;

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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to extend the time-limit provided for in the Decision of 5 December 1989 until 31 December 1991.