GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

NIGERIA BECOMES A CONTRACTING PARTY TO GATT

On 1 October 1960 the Federation of Nigeria became independent and thus acquired full autonomy in the conduct of its external commercial relations. The Government of Nigeria has informed the Executive Secretary that Nigeria wishes to be deemed to be a contracting party to GATT, in conformity with paragraph 5(c) of Article XXVI of the Agreement.

In accordance with the terms of this provision of the Agreement the United Kingdom has communicated its sponsorship of the Federation of Nigeria to become a contracting party. In fact, the United Kingdom has applied the Agreement in Nigeria since 1948.

In the light of the communications received from Nigeria and the United Kingdom and the procedures for sponsorship under Article XXVI:5(c), Nigeria is deemed, as from 1 October 1960, to be a contracting party to the General Agreement and will participate as such in the present Tariff Conference.

Nigeria is the thirty-eighth country to become a contracting party to GATT.

Note: The text of Article XXVI:5(c) reads as follows: "If any of the customs territories, in respect of which a contracting party has accepted this Agreement, possesses or acquires full autonomy in the conduct of its external commercial relations .... such territory shall, upon sponsorship through a declaration by the responsible contracting party establishing the above-mentioned fact, be deemed to be a contracting party".

END