PROVISIONAL ACCESSION OF YUGOSLAVIA

Under the terms of the Declaration of 25 May 1959, by which Yugoslavia entered into a form of association with the Contracting Parties to GATT, there has been an annual review of the development of mutual relations with Yugoslavia.

The Working Party which conducted the third annual review, in 1962, took into consideration the announcement of the intention of the Yugoslav Government to seek a solution which would constitute a substantial advance on the Declaration of May 1959, in the form of provisional accession; therefore in conducting the review this year the changes and developments in the commercial policy of Yugoslavia were examined. In the light of its discussions with Yugoslavia, of the progressive liberalization of the Yugoslav trading system and of the willingness of Yugoslavia to accept the obligations of the GATT, the Working Party recommended that provisional accession should be agreed by the Contracting Parties, until such time as Yugoslavia can accede fully under Article XXXIII.

In plenary meeting on 15 November a very large number of delegations gave warm support to the application of Yugoslavia for provisional accession, and the text of the Declaration for the Provisional Accession of Yugoslavia was approved by the required two-thirds majority. The Declaration is now open for acceptance by contracting parties, and it is expected that it will be accepted by most of the Contracting Parties. Yugoslavia will continue to participate in the work of the Contracting Parties until accession takes place.

At the conclusion Mr. Vido Krumic, leader of the delegation of Yugoslavia, thanked the Contracting Parties for approving the Declaration which, he said, would enable Yugoslavia to take further steps in regard to her commercial policies before applying for full membership.

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