The following letter, dated 12 June 1950, has been received by the Executive Secretary from the Government of the Union of South Africa.

"I have the honour to refer to document GATT/CP/54 of the 8th March, 1950, in which the Contracting Parties were informed of the withdrawal of the Republic of China from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"In compliance with the terms of Article XXVII of the General Agreement, I have the honour to inform you that the Union Government have in a Government Notice published on the 12th May, 1950, amended the Government Proclamation whereby the General Agreement was provisionally applied in the Union and the Government Notice concerned insofar as they were applicable to the Republic of China. The effect will be that maximum rates of duty where applicable and otherwise rates of duty not lower than the intermediate rate under the Union's Customs Act will be leviable on products of China on importation in the Union.

"All the items in schedule XVIII to the General Agreement negotiated with China were also negotiated with at least one other present contracting party. Schedule XVIII is therefore unaffected by the withdrawal of China from the General Agreement.

"I should be glad if you would inform the Contracting Parties accordingly."