Item 12 - Torquay Protocol

DECISION EXTENDING THE TIME LIMIT FOR SIGNATURE OF THE TORQUAY PROTOCOL

Note by the Executive Secretary

At the meeting on 21 September the Contracting Parties agreed to extend the date for signature of the Torquay Protocol by Brazil, Denmark, Korea, Philippines and the United Kingdom. Since then the Chilean Government has requested an extension of time to 31 December 1951 (GATT/CP.6/6/Add.4). By the closing date for signature, namely 21 October 1951, all contracting parties and acceding governments had signed the Protocol with the exception of those named above and Nicaragua.

Should the Contracting Parties wish to grant an extension of time to Chile and Nicaragua, the following draft Decision might serve.

CONSIDERING that paragraph 10 of the Torquay Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade provides that the Protocol would be open for signature by present contracting parties and acceding governments until October 21, 1951,

CONSIDERING that certain governments, for constitutional reasons or owing to other unavoidable circumstances, were unable to sign the Protocol by that date, and

CONSIDERING the desirability of affording an additional opportunity to those governments to sign the Protocol,

The CONTRACTING PARTIES

ACTING pursuant to Article XXXIII of the General Agreement and in view of the special circumstances referred to above,
DECIDE that, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 10 of the Torquay Protocol, signature of the Protocol shall be deemed to be effective for all purposes of that protocol, if affixed by a present contracting party not later than 31 December 1951, if affixed by the Government of the Republic of Korea not later than 31 March 1952 and if affixed by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines not later than 22 May 1952.

INSTRUCT the Executive Secretary to forward a copy of the present Decision to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.