URUGUAY - IMPORT SURCHARGES

Decision of 20 July 1963¹

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES by Decision of 8 May 1961² waived, subject to specified terms and conditions, the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to allow the Government of Uruguay to apply the import surcharges provided for in its Decree of 29 September 1960, as a temporary measure taken as part of and in conjunction with its stabilization and development programme, to those items specified in Schedule XXXI enumerated in the table annexed to that Decision, on the understanding that the surcharges be levied in a manner consistent with the provisions of Article I of the General Agreement;

Considering that the aforesaid Decision will lapse on 1 July 1963, and that the Government of Uruguay has, on 12 June 1963, requested that it be extended for a further period of three years;

Considering that by Decrees of 15 March, 14 April, 20 May and 28 May 1963 the Government of Uruguay introduced modifications in the list of items to which the surcharges apply and in the rates of surcharge;

Considering that a careful and detailed examination of the continued maintenance of import charges in the new situation is essential but is not possible within a short time;

Having therefore agreed:

(a) that the examination of the Uruguayan request for a further extension of the time-limit in the Decision of 8 May 1961 be deferred until such time, which should not be later than 31 December 1963, as the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Government of Uruguay and the International Monetary Fund, determines to be practicable for such an examination, and

¹ This Decision was adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by postal ballot by twenty-eight votes in favour, and none against (Ref. C/M/16). Nine contracting parties recorded abstentions. Several contracting parties transmitted statements for circulation. These will be reproduced in a separate document.

² BISD, Tenth Supplement, page 51.
(b) that, should the CONTRACTING PARTIES not be in session at that time, the Council be authorized, after receiving the advice of the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions and of the International Monetary Fund, to deal with the Uruguayan request;

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

Decide that the Government of Uruguay be authorized to maintain the surcharges at present applied by it, otherwise subject to the terms and conditions of the Decision of 8 May 1961, until the completion of the examination referred to above.