ARTICLE XIX ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES

Window Glass

The Minister for Economic Affairs of the United States Mission has transmitted to the secretariat the following communication concerning a delay in the restoration of the concession rates on window glass (cf. documents L/1509 and addenda, L/2743, L/2953, L/3316 and L/3317).

I have been asked to advise you, for the information of contracting parties, of a ninety-day delay in the first of three scheduled reductions in United States tariff rates on window glass imports.

The President issued a Proclamation on 27 February 1970 extending escape clause rates on window glass for two years and provided a phasing out of this additional protection in three annual stages: 31 January 1972, 31 January 1973, and the final reduction 31 January 1974.

The President announced on 31 January this year that he will delay for ninety days the first of these three scheduled reductions in order to provide additional time to study new findings on the glass industry presented to him on that date in a report by the Tariff Commission. The latter report contains a unanimous finding by the Commission that imports of rolled glass, plate and float glass, tempered glass, and polished wire glass are not causing or threatening to cause serious injury. The Commission divided (3-3) on the question of the effect of imports of sheet glass. One group found imports were threatening serious injury and recommended restoration of the increased rates imposed in 1962 on glass measuring not over 100 United inches and weighing over 16 but not over 28 ounces per square foot—ordinary window glass the type now subject to escape clause action. The other group found that imports are not causing or threatening to cause serious injury.

When the membership is equally divided in its findings, United States trade legislation provides that the President may consider the findings of either group as the findings of the Commission.

Executive agencies of the United States Government will review the report and formulate a recommendation to the President.

1The text in English of this Proclamation can be obtained from the secretariat.