PARTICIPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE WORK OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

Decision of 2 August 1973

Considering that the Government of the Philippines has made a request to the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to accede provisionally to the General Agreement and will be prepared to enter into tariff negotiations with contracting parties during the multilateral trade negotiations to be started in September 1973,

Considering the desirability of the Philippines being invited to accede provisionally to the General Agreement as a step towards its eventual accession pursuant to Article XXXIII,

Desiring that the Government of the Philippines, pending its accession, shall be associated with the discussions and deliberations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES,

Noting that a number of contracting parties intend that, pending the accession of the Philippines pursuant to Article XXXIII, commercial relations between them and the Philippines shall be based upon the provisions of the General Agreement in accordance with the Declaration on the Provisional Accession of the Philippines, and

Considering that the said Declaration requests the CONTRACTING PARTIES to perform certain functions comparable in nature to their functions under the General Agreement,

The CONTRACTING PARTIES

Decide:

1. To invite the Government of the Philippines to participate in sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and of subsidiary bodies established by the CONTRACTING PARTIES;

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1 The Decision has been adopted by postal ballot. There were 56 votes in favour and none against.
2. To accept such functions as are necessary for the operation of the Declaration referred to in the preamble to this Decision;

3. To make arrangements for tariff negotiations between contracting parties and the Philippines within the context of the multilateral trade negotiations to be started in September 1973;

This Decision shall continue in effect until the accession of the Philippines to the General Agreement following tariff negotiations with contracting parties or until 31 December 1975, whichever date is earlier, unless the CONTRACTING PARTIES agree to extend it to a later date.