Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by decision of 18 July 1988, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Mexico to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 July 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Considering that intensive work has been carried out by the competent authorities in Mexico in order to prepare the required Harmonized System documentation necessary for the renegotiations under Article XXVIII;

Noting that, owing to technical difficulties, it has not yet been possible for the Government of Mexico to complete and distribute the required documentation as foreseen, and carry out negotiations and consultations under Article XXVIII before the expiry date;

Noting that the Government of Mexico is doing its utmost to finalize the required documentation according to the established guidelines with a view to distributing it to all contracting parties as soon as possible in the course of November;

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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to extend the time-limit, provided for in the Decision of 18 July 1988, until 1 July 1989.