VENEZUELA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXXXVI

The following communication, dated 26 March 1991, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Venezuela.

The Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and informs it that on 31 March 1990 Venezuela adopted the Common Tariff Nomenclature of the Member States of the Cartagena Agreement, NANDINA, based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System.

The above-mentioned Nomenclature has replaced the NABANDINA, which was based on the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature.

It is important to point out that the Harmonized System came into force in Venezuela while the negotiations for our accession to the General Agreement were underway. For technical reasons, the tariff negotiations leading to the adoption of Schedule LXXXVI could not be conducted on the basis of the Harmonized System.

The Government of Venezuela also wishes to notify the fact that when adopting the NANDINA Nomenclature it was obliged to modify the tariffs for a very small number of concessions.

However, the interval since the adoption of the NANDINA has not been sufficient for Venezuela to have concluded the relevant consultations concerning transposition with the contracting parties with which it negotiated its tariff commitments.

The bulk of the documentation necessary for carrying out these consultations and negotiations under Article XXVIII has already been forwarded to the GATT secretariat for circulation to the contracting parties. Venezuela notifies that at present it is preparing the remaining documentation and hopes to have it ready for delivery as soon as it is available.
In view of the foregoing, the Government of Venezuela requests a temporary waiver of its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 31 December 1991, in order to carry out the tariff renegotiations deemed necessary under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement. It also requests the GATT secretariat to bring this communication to the attention of the CONTRACTING PARTIES for consideration at the next meeting of the Council of Representatives.