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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to apply, from 1 January 1993, the General Agreement and the relevant instruments negotiated under the auspices of the GATT, to the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, on an interim basis, as if they had already acceded thereto. It shall be understood that the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic will also apply the General Agreement and the relevant instruments to the contracting parties and that their respective Protocols of Accession will provide for the acceptance and entry into force of their rights and obligations as of 1 January 1993. During the transitional period, the Governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic are entitled to participate in all activities of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and their subsidiary bodies but shall not participate in the decision-making process. This transitional arrangement shall expire on the date of entry into force of the respective Protocols of Accession to the General Agreement of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, or on 1 May 1993, whichever date is the earlier.