NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII IN 1957

Decision of 27 April 1957

The Decision reproduced below was approved by twenty contracting parties represented at the meeting of the Intersessional Committee on 27 April 1957, see IC/SR.31. The Decision was submitted subsequently to other contracting parties with the request that votes be recorded by 5 June 1957. A further six contracting parties voted in favour and none against.

The Government of Cuba advised that it was unable to vote in favour of the Decision as the work of "reviewing and bringing into force new and improved tariff legislation as of 1 January 1958 has not yet been completed. For that reason the Cuban Government is not in a position to conform with the recommendation to notify proposed withdrawals and modifications of concessions by 15 July".

The procedures for notification of proposed withdrawals and modifications etc., have been distributed in L/635.

Decision of 27 April 1957

"The CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade,

"Desiring to make arrangements similar to those provided in the revised text of Article XXVIII, contained in the Protocol amending the Preamble and Parts II and III of the General Agreement, whereby contracting parties wishing to modify or withdraw particular concessions in their schedules on 1 January 1958 may enter into negotiations before the end of 1957 for that purpose,

"Recommend:

1. that a contracting party wishing to enter into negotiations under the provisions and procedures of Article XXVIII in order to modify or cease to apply on 1 January 1958 the treatment which it has agreed to apply under Article II to any product described in the appropriate schedule annexed to the General Agreement should, not later than 15 July 1957, notify the Executive Secretary and the contracting party or parties with which the concession was initially negotiated;
2. that a contracting party which considers it has a substantial interest in any concession so notified should advise the Executive Secretary and the contracting party wishing to modify or withdraw the concession, as soon as possible and in any case not later than 1 September 1957;

"Decide to invite all contracting parties involved to assemble in Geneva, or other convenient place, on 1 October 1957 (or earlier if the Executive Secretary finds that the scope of the negotiations warrants the choice of a date in September), on the understanding that those contracting parties which are in a position to do so will be free to start their negotiations on a bilateral basis in advance of the multilateral stage of the negotiations; and

"Instruct the Executive Secretary to make all the necessary arrangements for the negotiations."