The following communication dated 7 July has been received from the Government of Greece:

"The Greek Government has taken note of the report presented by its delegation on the tariff negotiations which took place in Geneva from 15 May to 29 June 1955. This report shows that the delegation had the opportunity to explain in detail the reasons which led this Government to request the withdrawal of certain concessions granted at Annecy and Torquay.

"During the negotiations with delegations of the contracting parties with whom the items in question were initially negotiated and the consultations with the principally interested parties, the Greek Delegation accepted:

(a) considerable reductions in the level of the rates to be established; and

(b) the binding within the GATT of certain rates upon which agreement was reached.

"The Greek delegation also consented to substantial compensation well beyond the limited amount envisaged by the Government when it presented the special case of Greece to the CONTRACTING PARTIES during the Ninth Session (see Summary Record of the thirty-fourth meeting, SR.9/34 - statement by the leader of the Greek delegation and comment thereon by the Chairman).

"The Greek Government, despite new budgetary difficulties due to the almost complete destruction of Volos, the third industrial city of Greece, has approved the final proposals of its delegation and the implications flowing therefrom, because of its wish to assure a minimum of protection necessary to the economic development of the country - to certain branches of industry, principally those affected by the liberalization of imports which took place in April 1953."
"The Government notes with regret the attitude adopted by certain delegations which prevented reaching an agreement within the time limit provided for the negotiations, which would have permitted the Greek Government to decide before 30 June 1955 upon the prolongation of the assured life of the schedules annexed to the General Agreement. The Greek Government cannot, however, delay indefinitely the tariff modifications in question without seriously damaging certain branches of Greek industry and without depriving its budget of supplementary and indispensable income. The Government should therefore envisage putting these measures into effect immediately. However, in the hope of reaching a sufficiently general agreement before applying the new rates, and taking into account the fact that certain delegations have already indicated their agreement to modifications which most directly concern them, the Greek Government has decided to postpone the date for putting the increased tariffs into effect until 1 August 1955, in the hope that other contracting parties will deem it in their interest to subscribe to proposals resulting from the Genova negotiations, through the channels of their diplomatic missions in Athens. The content of these proposals will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

"I wish to request that this information be communicated to the contracting parties, which took part in the negotiations as quickly as possible,"