HARMONIZED SYSTEM - ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS

Submission of Documentation

Schedules LXXII and LXXII bis - European Communities

The secretariat has received the following communication, dated 5 June 1986, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Communities.

I have the honour to communicate, on behalf of the Community, the documentation appended hereto as Annexes I to VI in French and English, with a view to adoption of the nomenclature of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) and in accordance with the Procedures for Negotiations under Article XXVIII (BISD 27S/26) and the Decision of the Council of 12 July 1983 (BISD 30S/17) describing procedures for the transposition of GATT concessions into the nomenclature of the Harmonized System:

Annex I: Existing tariff
with explanatory annexes "QUOTAS" and "EX" (tariff lines partially bound or bound at different rates)

Annex II: Proposed tariff
with explanatory annexes "QUOTAS" and "EX" (tariff lines partially bound or bound at different rates)

Annex III: Concordance table
Existing tariff/proposed tariff

Annex IV: Concordance table
Proposed tariff/existing tariff

Annex V: Imports into the Community of goods listed in Schedules LXXII and LXXII bis and subject to renegotiation under Article XXVIII
- Breakdown by products

Annex VI: Imports into the Community of goods listed in Schedules LXXII and LXXII bis and subject to renegotiation under Article XXVIII
- Breakdown by countries.

Annexes I to IV also contain explanatory notes designed to clarify the presentation.
In addition, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that with a view to ensuring the complete transparency of the Community's transposition and thereby facilitating the process of negotiations or consultations, Annexes I to IV contain not only the existing or proposed bound tariff lines and rates of duty but also, for purposes of information, the non-bound tariff lines and rates of duty.

Moreover, in keeping with what was indicated in the Committee on Tariff Concessions, initial negotiating rights have not been transposed in Annexes II and IV in respect of each proposed tariff line, since the transposition of such initial negotiating rights is to be reserved to the exclusive framework of bilateral negotiations. On the other hand, the letter "N" has been indicated in Annex II in respect of each proposed tariff line which involves a change from existing tariff concessions that might become the subject of negotiation or consultation.

On that basis, the Community is prepared to enter into negotiations or consultations under the relevant provisions of Article XXVIII. To that end, any contracting party which considers that it has an interest in a concession must address a communication to that effect in writing, within 90 days, to the Permanent Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities and send a copy thereof to the secretariat of GATT. To accelerate negotiations or consultations, it would be useful to indicate in the communication the products (and the tariff line numbers) for which the opening of negotiations or consultations is requested.

I would request you to kindly transmit the present communication to the Contracting Parties.