CONTRACTING PARTIES
Nineteenth Session

PERUVIAN IMPORT CHARGES

Note by the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

At the third meeting of this session I indicated that, after consultations with delegations concerned, I would make suggestions in connexion with the request submitted by the delegate of Peru with respect to the Decision adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 21 November 1958 and subsequently amended on 17 November 1959 and 19 November 1960.

In the light of these consultations, the following draft decision has been prepared and is submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES for consideration and approval.
CONSIDERING that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by their Decision of 21 November 1958, as amended by their Decisions of 17 November 1959 and 19 November 1960, waived the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to allow the Government of Peru to maintain under specified conditions certain surcharges additional to the specific duties provided for in Schedule XXXV annexed to the General Agreement,

NOTING that the Government of Peru has made significant progress in the reduction or elimination of the surcharges maintained under the above-mentioned Decision but that, in view of unforeseen difficulties, it is unlikely that the Government of Peru will be in a position to eliminate all these surcharges by 8 June 1962, and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the statement by the Peruvian delegation that the Government of Peru is determined to take the necessary measures to terminate the surcharge system as such and, concurrently, to make full use of its powers to eliminate by administrative action the surcharges maintained on items specified in Schedule XXXV;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article XXV of the General Agreement,

DECIDE to extend the period during which surcharges additional to the specific duties provided for in Schedule XXXV may be maintained under the Decision of 21 November 1958, as amended, until the date on which all such surcharges shall be eliminated, or until 30 April 1963, whichever is earlier, subject to the conditions laid down in that Decision, on the understanding that the Government of Peru will submit to the CONTRACTING PARTIES by 15 September 1962 a supplementary report on its action under that Decision and a detailed plan and schedule for the complete elimination of such surcharges by 30 April 1963 at the latest.