The following communication dated 21 November 1989 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties and considered by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their forty-fifth session.

The Council of GATT Representatives, by its Decision of 24 July 1989 (L/6548), has extended until 31 December 1989 the waiver granted to Pakistan under paragraph 5 of Article XXV of the General Agreement so as to enable Pakistan to complete renegotiation of its Schedule of concessions.

We are presently in the process of consulting on our draft Schedule in Harmonized System. Undertakings have been reached with some of our trading partners, while consultations are in the fairly advanced stage with some of the other trading partners. This process will, however, take some more time before the Schedule is finalized.

Therefore, Pakistan requests that the time-limit of the present waiver be extended until 30 June 1990.

To facilitate consideration of this matter, the text of a draft decision is annexed.
ANNEX

PAKISTAN - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XV

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by Decision of 29 November 1977, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Pakistan to maintain in force the rates of duty provided in its revised Customs Tariff, subject to certain specified conditions;

Considering that among the conditions mentioned above was the obligation to conduct negotiations or consultations in conformity with paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article XXVIII and to terminate such negotiations or consultations before 31 December 1979;

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by successive decisions, extended the time-limit for the completion of the negotiations or consultations to be conducted by the Government of Pakistan until 31 December 1989;

Noting that the Government of Pakistan has also advised that it implemented the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) in 1988 and that it will have to enter into another series of Article XXVIII negotiations in connection with the introduction of the Harmonized System;

Considering that the Government of Pakistan has indicated that a new schedule of concessions in the Harmonized System nomenclature, taking into account the negotiations and consultations already carried out, will be finalized after the required negotiations and consultations under Article XXVIII with interested contracting parties;

Noting that Pakistan is in the process of consulting on its draft schedule in the Harmonized System and that understandings have been reached with some of its trading partners, while consultations are in the fairly advanced stage with some of the other trading partners;

Considering that the Government of Pakistan has therefore requested a further extension of the time-limit for the conclusion of the negotiations by six months;

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

Decide that the time-limit provided for in paragraph 3 of the Decision of 29 November 1977 shall be extended until 30 June 1990.

1BISD 24S/15.
2L/6548.