PHILIPPINES - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXXV

Extension of time-limit

The following communication dated 5 November 1991 has been received from the Permanent Mission of the Philippines with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties and considered by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their forty-seventh session.

This has reference to the Decision of the Council of 1 July 1991, as contained in document L/6878, to grant the Government of the Philippines an extension until 31 December 1991 of the time-limit of the waiver from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement. Following the submission of the proposed HS Schedule LXXV which was circulated in document SECRET/HS/24, the Government of the Philippines is pleased to inform that consultations with four contracting parties have been satisfactorily completed while consultations and negotiations are still on-going with one other contracting party who has reserved its rights under GATT Article XXVIII.

The Government of the Philippines believes that it will not be possible to complete the said consultations and negotiations by 31 December 1991.

The Government of the Philippines is, therefore, requesting another extension up to 30 June 1992 in order to complete the consultations and negotiations in cooperation with the concerned contracting party.

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

PHILIPPINES - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXXV

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by Decision of 13 March 1989, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to enable the Government of the Philippines to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 19 October 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Considering that, by successive Decisions, the CONTRACTING PARTIES extended the time-limit for the completion of the negotiations or consultations to be conducted by the Government of the Philippines until 31 December 1991;

Noting that the required HS documentation necessary for the renegotiations under Article XXVIII has been submitted by the Philippines and circulated to contracting parties in document SECRET/HS/24 on 25 April 1989;

Considering that the Government of the Philippines has completed consultations satisfactorily with four contracting parties and that negotiations are still on-going with one contracting party which has reserved its rights under Article XXVIII;

Considering that it will, however, not be possible for the Government of the Philippines to terminate the negotiations or consultations before 31 December 1991; and

Considering that the Government of the Philippines has requested an extension of the waiver until 30 June 1992, in order to complete the consultations and negotiations in cooperation with the concerned contracting party;

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

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to extend the time-limit, provided for in the Decision of 13 March 1989, until 30 June 1992.

1BISD 36S/431.
2L/6878.