SRI LANKA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE VI

Extension of Time-Limit

The following communication dated 1 November 1991 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties and considered by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their forty-seventh session.

With further reference to my letter of 22 April 1991, I have the honour to inform you that Sri Lanka has already commenced Article XXVIII negotiations with interested contracting parties, and that it will not be possible to conclude these negotiations before the time-limit, i.e. 31 December 1991.

Therefore, the Government of Sri Lanka requests a further extension of the exemption from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 30 June 1992.

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

\(^1\) L/6847
Annex

Sri Lanka - Establishment of a new Schedule VI

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Considering that the Contracting Parties, by Decision of 8 November 1988,1 suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 January 1989 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 Sri Lanka until 31 December 1991;

Considering that the relevant Harmonized System documentation necessary for the renegotiations under Article XXVIII has been circulated to contracting parties with document SECRET/HS/26 on 12 January 1990 and that the Government of Sri Lanka has commenced Article XXVIII negotiations with the interested contracting parties;

Considering that it will not be possible for the Government of Sri Lanka to conclude these negotiations before 31 December 1991;

Noting that the Government of Sri Lanka has requested a further extension of the exemption from its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 30 June 1992;

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 8 November 1988, until 30 June 1992.

1BISD, 35S/22

2L/6879