The following communication, dated 4 November 1994, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh.

Please refer to your fax dated 26 October 1994 regarding the request for extension of waivers. The information needed for the granting of the waiver is furnished below:

(1) Date of original waiver: 18 July 1988\(^1\).

(2) Date of submission of documents relevant to the HS implementation: 6 December 1990\(^2\).

(3) Number of extensions and dates when granted: eleven, i.e. 24/7/89; 5/12/89; 16/7/90; 13/12/90; 12/8/91; 4/12/91; 20/7/92; 3/12/92; 19/7/93; 17/1/94 and 21/7/94.

(4) Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been initiated: five countries (New Zealand, Norway, Canada, Finland and Australia).

(5) Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been concluded: none.

(6) Status of outstanding Article XXVIII negotiations, as well as a general outline of relevant problems: we have responded to the questions raised by five contracting parties. Their reaction is awaited.

(7) Outlook for concluding the process: we hope to conclude consultations in a few months time.

The present waiver for Bangladesh expires on 31 December 1994, and in view of the position explained above, we would request you to kindly allow us a further extension of the waiver up to 30 June 1995.

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

\(^1\)BISD 35S/348.

\(^2\)SECRET/HS/29.
ANNEX

BANGLADESH - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXX

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by their Decision of 18 July 1988\(^1\), suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Bangladesh to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 July 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Taking into account that, by successive Decisions, the CONTRACTING PARTIES extended the time-limit of the waiver granted to Bangladesh until 31 December 1994\(^2\);

Considering that the required HS documentation for renegotiation under Article XXVIII has been submitted to the Secretariat and circulated to the contracting parties on 6 December 1990 in document SECRET/HS/29;

Noting that the Government of Bangladesh has initiated negotiations under Article XXVIII with five countries;

Noting that the Government of Bangladesh has provided responses to questions raised by these five countries and is awaiting their reaction;

Considering that the Government of Bangladesh has, therefore, requested a further extension of the exemption of its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 30 June 1995;

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 18 July 1988, until 30 June 1995.

\(^1\)BISD 35S/348.

\(^2\)L/7506.