COSTA RICA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXXXV

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 24 November 1994, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica.

At the meeting of the Committee on Tariff Concessions on 22 November last, the Delegation of Costa Rica announced its intention of requesting an extension of the temporary waiver of its obligations under Article II of the General Agreement until 30 June 1995, in order to continue consultations under Article XXVIII. I should like to confirm what was said at that meeting and inform you of the actual situation as regards the waiver.

After the waiver was initially granted on 26 January 1994, the Government of Costa Rica submitted the documentation concerning the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System), which it circulated as document SECRET/HS/36 of 3 June 1994.

To date, Article XXVIII negotiations have been completed with one country. Negotiations with two countries, with which technical issues remain outstanding, have still to be finalized. The Government of Costa Rica trusts that it will be able to conclude the negotiations in the near future.

To facilitate consideration of this matter, a draft Decision is annexed.
ANNEX

COSTA RICA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE LXXXV

Draft Decision on Extension of Waiver

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by Decision of 26 January 1994¹, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to enable the Government of Costa Rica to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System);

Taking into account that the Government of Costa Rica submitted the documentation on the Harmonized System, which was circulated as document SECRET/HS/36 of 3 June 1994;

Considering that to date the negotiations under Article XXVIII have been completed with one country and that consultations have yet to be completed with two countries, with which technical issues remain outstanding, and that the Government of Costa Rica trusts that it will be able to complete the negotiations in the near future;

Considering that the Government of Costa Rica has requested an extension of the waiver until 30 June 1995 in order to continue the consultations under Article XXVIII;

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 until 30 June 1995 the time-limit provided for in the Decision of 26 January 1994.

¹L/7403.