PAKISTAN - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XV

Extension of Time-limit

The following communication, dated 1 November 1994, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan.

Reference is made to your fax of 26 October 1994, on the subject of extension of waivers. The information requested in your fax is as follows:

i) The date of original waiver was 29 November 1977.

ii) Our waiver is somewhat different in as much as it is both to enable renegotiation of Pakistan's Schedule XV of GATT concessions and transposition to the Harmonized System. The relevant information was circulated in GATT documents L/4567 and L/4609/Add.1 and Add.2.

iii) The waiver has been successively extended.

iv) Negotiations have been conducted with nine contracting parties which expressed their interest.

v) Negotiations were completed with seven contracting parties.

vi) Negotiations with the two remaining contracting parties are in progress and we hope to reach a settlement as soon as possible.

In view of the above, we would request the Committee on Tariff Concessions to kindly forward the above information to the CONTRACTING PARTIES for consideration of the extension of the waiver until 30 June 1995 at their session in December 1994.

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

1BISD 24S/15.
ANNEX

PAKISTAN - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XV

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by their 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;

Noting also that the Government of Pakistan has implemented the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) in 1988 and that it has conducted Article XXVIII negotiations with nine contracting parties which expressed their interest;

Taking into account that the negotiations were completed with seven contracting parties and are in progress with the remaining two contracting parties with whom the Government of Pakistan hopes to reach a settlement as soon as possible;

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by successive Decisions, extended the time-limit for the completion of the negotiations or consultations until 31 December 1994;

Considering that the Government of Pakistan has requested a further extension of the waiver until 30 June 1995;

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

Decide that, in view of the exceptional circumstances, the time-limit provided for in paragraph 3 of the Decision of 29 November 1977 shall be extended until 30 June 1995.

1BISD 24S/15.

2L/7512.