

GATT/AIR/204

23 AUGUST 1960

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XIX - RESTRICTION ON AUSTRALIAN IMPORTS OF MOTOR MOWERS AND ENGINES

CONTRACTING PARTIES WERE INFORMED ON 9 JUNE 1960 (L/1217) THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO TAKE ACTION UNDER THE PROCEDURES OF ARTICLE XIX TO IMPOSE ON 30 MAY 1960 QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF MOTOR MOWERS AND ENGINES.

THE UNITED STATES, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS RIGHT TO QUESTION THE PROPRIETY OF THE AUSTRALIAN ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THESE PRODUCTS UNDER ARTICLE XIX, HAS REQUESTED AN EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT, PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH 3(a) OF ARTICLE XIX, WITHIN WHICH AFFECTED COUNTRIES MAY WITHDRAW SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS FROM AUSTRALIA.

ACCORDINGLY I AM CIRCULATING THE FOLLOWING DRAFT DECISION TO CONTRACTING PARTIES WITH THE REQUEST THAT THEY NOTIFY ME OF THEIR VOTE BY 19 SEPTEMBER 1960 AT THE LATEST.

DECISION EXTENDING THE TIME LIMIT IN ARTICLE XIX:3(a) FOR NOTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING PARTIES OF ANY SUSPENSION OF OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE IMPOSITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON MOTOR MOWERS AND ENGINES UNDER ARTICLE XIX.

CONSIDERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA TOOK ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX TO IMPOSE QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF MOTOR LAWN-MOWERS (TARIFF ITEMS 161(B)(3)(a) AND (b)); AND MOWER ENGINES (TARIFF ITEM EX 178(I)(2)(a)),

CONSIDERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA HAS ASSURED THAT IT IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS ON THIS MATTER UPON REQUEST WITH OTHER CONTRACTING PARTIES AS REQUIRED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE XIX, AND

CONSIDERING THAT ANY CONSULTATIONS WILL NOT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN TIME FOR A CONTRACTING PARTY TO AVAIL ITSELF IN THE EVENT OF FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT OF ITS RIGHT TO SUSPEND EQUIVALENT OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 3(a) OF ARTICLE XIX,

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

DECIDE THAT, WITH RESPECT TO THE AUSTRALIAN ACTION REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE NINETY-DAY PERIOD PRESCRIBED IN ARTICLE XIX:3(a) SHALL BEGIN TO RUN AS FROM THE DATE OF THE COMPLETION OF ANY SUCH CONSULTATIONS.

E. WINDHAM WHITE

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