

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## GENEVA (1979) PROTOCOL

### Statement of the Government of Japan

The Permanent Delegation of Japan has transmitted the following statement dated 11 July 1979 to the secretariat with the request that it be communicated to governments signing the Geneva (1979) Protocol.

In notes to the schedule of tariff concessions attached to the Geneva (1979) Protocol, some participants reserve their rights to take such action regarding the staging or other general implementation of their concessions of interest to other participants as is considered to be justified to restore the reciprocal balance of concessions in the event that any other participant does not stage its tariff reductions on concession items of significant trade interest to them from the rate of duty applied as of the date on which the schedule of that participant becomes a schedule to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

In this respect, the Government of Japan states its position as follows:

Tariff negotiations under the auspices of the GATT relate to tariff bindings or reduction of bound rates under the GATT, and, where a country establishes in accordance with its domestic laws applied rates of tariffs at lower levels than bound rates, such applied rates have no relations in the tariff negotiations under the GATT. Accordingly it is the view of the Government of Japan that it is not justified for a participant to take measures on its GATT concession rates for the reason that another participant does not make reductions from applied rates. Any such change on GATT concession rates could be taken only in accordance with the relevant provisions and procedures of the GATT.