GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

Spec(89)44 18 September 1989

TARIFFS AND TRADE

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

Request of Nicaragua

Note by the Secretariat

The GATT Secretariat has received a letter dated 19 June 1989 from the Government of Nicaragua in which it referred to its recent payment of US\$ 22,592.77 (Sw F 38,013.34) and requested "the rescheduling of the remainder of the 1988 contribution, through an annual payments scheme similar to that established for the arrears for 1987 and earlier...".

The Secretariat responded on 17 July 1989 that "the request of your Government to include the amount of Sw F 53,353 remaining due on the 1988 assessment in the scheme for repayment of contributions in arrears requires a decision of the Council. Such a decision can only be taken on the basis of a proposal from the Budget Committee, to which your request will be submitted in the course of its next meeting."

Copy of the letter from the Government of Nicaragua is hereto attached.

89-1309

Spec(89)44 Page 2

Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations Office and International Organizations at Geneva

ONU/Ge. 06-316

Geneva, 19 June 1989

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Sir,

I have the pleasure to refer to the payment of the contributions which Nicaragua owes to GATT.

We recently transmitted to GATT's finance service a cheque from the Central Bank of Nicaragua for the amount of US\$ 22,592.77 (twenty-two thousand five hundred and ninety-two dollars and seventy-seven cents), on the understanding that this amount would be allocated primarily to the liquidation of Nicaragua's 1989 contribution while the remainder would be set against its 1988 contribution.

The purpose of this letter is to request a rescheduling of the remainder of the 1988 contribution, through an annual payments scheme similar to that established for the arrears for 1987 and earlier.

I wish to assure you that my Government is determined to pay the full amount of its contributions, even though this represents a great sacrifice in the particularly difficult economic circumstances in which the country is placed.

In this context, the rescheduling of the remainder of the 1988 contribution would make it easier for Nicaragua to fulfil its future commitments and continue paying its arrears, and thus bring itself up-to-date with the Organization.

I trust that we shall be able to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement in this respect.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Gustavo-Adolfo Vargas Ambassador Permanent Representative

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Mr. Arthur Dunkel Director-General of GATT 154, rue de Lausanne

1211 Geneva