

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/WPB/2

31 March 1983

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Working Party on the Accession of Bulgaria

## DRAFT DECISION ON BULGARIAN ACCESSION TO THE AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

The following terms of accession to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade take into account the fact that Bulgaria is not a contracting party to the GATT and that therefore Article 14.23 of the Agreement does not apply in the case of Bulgaria. These terms of accession would apply only as long as Bulgaria is not a contracting party to the GATT. These terms are intended to achieve mutual economic advantage and a balance of rights and obligations between the Government of Bulgaria and the other Parties to the Agreement:

1. The agreement shall be understood as giving rights and obligations only in the field defined by the Agreement.
2. In the event of a dispute between Bulgaria and another Party to the Agreement, the provisions of Article 14, paragraphs 1-22, shall apply. During the procedures under the said paragraphs of Article 14 and without prejudice to them, in exceptional circumstances in which the balance of rights and obligations under the Agreement cannot be otherwise preserved, a Party or Bulgaria may take provisional action in order to suspend such obligations under the Agreement which it deems necessary in the circumstances to preserve the balance of rights and obligations under the Agreement. Such action shall only be taken after consultations, and shall not nullify or impair the procedures under Article 14, paragraphs 1-22. Any such action would be promptly notified to the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade.
3. Should any Party or Bulgaria consider that the action taken is not appropriate in the circumstances it may refer the matter to the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, which will, upon request from such Party or Bulgaria, examine the action in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 above.