

1 OCTOBER 1987

SUBJECT: CHINA'S STATUS AS A CONTRACTING PARTY

1. AT ITS MEETING OF 14 MAY 1987 THE GATT COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES TOOK THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

"THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS SUBMITTED TO THE GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES A REQUEST TO RESUME ITS STATUS AS A CONTRACTING PARTY (L/6017) AND A MEMORANDUM ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE REGIME (L/6125). TAKING NOTE OF THE STATEMENTS MADE IN THE COUNCIL OF 4 MARCH 1987, A WORKING PARTY WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL. THIS WORKING PARTY WILL EXAMINE THE FOREIGN TRADE REGIME OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, DEVELOP A DRAFT PROTOCOL SETTING OUT THE RESPECTIVE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, PROVIDE A FORUM FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF A SCHEDULE, ADDRESS AS APPROPRIATE OTHER ISSUES CONCERNING THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE GATT, INCLUDING PROCEDURES FOR DECISION-MAKING BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL" (C/M/209).

2. THE WORKING PARTY WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING ON 22 OCTOBER 1987 AT 10 A.M. IN THE CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, 154 RUE DE LAUSANNE, GENEVA.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, IN PARTICULAR THE STATE OF DOCUMENTATION, THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS.

4. THE WORKING PARTY IS OPEN TO ALL CONTRACTING PARTIES INDICATING THEIR WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKING PARTY.

5. CONTRACTING PARTIES WISHING TO SERVE ON THE WORKING PARTY, AND OTHER CONTRACTING PARTIES, ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WISHING TO BE REPRESENTED AS OBSERVERS, ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

A. DUNKEL