

3 FEBRUARY 1994

SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON CHINA'S STATUS AS A CONTRACTING PARTY

1. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY ON CHINA'S STATUS AS A CONTRACTING PARTY WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 15 TO 18 MARCH 1994. THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 10 A.M. ON 15 MARCH IN THE CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, 154 RUE DE LAUSANNE, GENEVA.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS:

- A. TO GIVE MEMBERS OF THE WORKING PARTY THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS FROM CHINA ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ITS FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND TRADE REGIME; AND
- B. TO CONTINUE CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES TO BE DEALT WITH IN RESPECT OF CHINA'S STATUS AS A CONTRACTING PARTY.

DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THIS AGENDA ITEM INCLUDE "CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE REGIME" (SPEC(88)13/ADD.13), "PEOPLE'S BANK OF CHINA ANNOUNCEMENT OF FURTHER REFORM OF THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE SYSTEM" (SPEC(88)13/ADD.14), "FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE WORKING PARTY CONCERNING CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE REGIME" (26 JANUARY 1994), AND A DOCUMENT WHICH CHINA INTENDS TO SUBMIT SHORTLY, REVISING THE "UPDATED SUMMARY DOCUMENT OF THE EXISTING TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES IN CHINA" (SPEC(88)13/ADD.12/REV.1).

3. AS AGREED IN THE INFORMAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON EXPORT STATISTICS AT ITS MEETING IN SEPTEMBER 1993, THIS INFORMAL GROUP WILL RECONVENE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY. THE MEETING OF THE INFORMAL GROUP WILL COMMENCE AT 3 P.M. ON 14 MARCH 1994 AND WILL CONTINUE IF NECESSARY ON 17 MARCH.

4. MEMBERS OF 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.

PETER D. SUTHERLAND