

**INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM CHANGES INTO WTO  
SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS ON 1 JANUARY 1996**

Extension of Time-Limit

*Decision of 14 October 1998<sup>1</sup>*

Members,

*Considering* that the Members of the WTO, by their Decisions of 13 December 1995, 18 July 1996, 24 April 1997, 22 October 1997, and 24 April 1998,<sup>2</sup> acting pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article IX of the WTO Agreement, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of GATT 1994 until 31 October 1998, for the purpose of enabling the Members listed in the Annex to implement the recommended amendments to the Harmonized System nomenclature;

*Noting* that the Members listed in the Annex have either requested to be included under the waiver, or have requested an extension of the waiver for reasons explained in their requests;

*Considering* that the Members concerned would need more time to proceed with consultations or possible Article XXVIII negotiations, in particular also in light of general reservations made by the other Members,

*Acting* pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article IX of the WTO Agreement,

*Decide*, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to suspend the application of the provisions of Article II of GATT 1994, until 30 April 1999, for the purpose of enabling the Members listed in the Annex to implement the recommended amendments to the Harmonized System nomenclature, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) the Member concerned shall have submitted the documentation required under paragraph 2 of the simplified procedures adopted by the GATT 1947 Committee on Tariff Concessions to implement changes in the Harmonized System<sup>3</sup>; or if special circumstances apply, the Member concerned shall have requested technical assistance from the Secretariat for the completion of such documentation.
- (ii) the Member concerned shall, where necessary, promptly enter into negotiations and consultations with interested Members pursuant to paragraphs 1-3 of Article XXVIII of GATT 1994;

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted in accordance with the Decision-Making Procedures under Articles IX and XII of the WTO Agreement agreed by the General Council (WT/L/93).

<sup>2</sup> WT/L/124 + Corr.1, WT/L/173, WT/L/216, WT/L/243 and WT/L/268.

<sup>3</sup> BISD 39S/300.

- (iii) the negotiations and consultations mentioned above shall be completed not later than 30 April 1999;
- (iv) pending the entry into force of the results of the negotiations or consultations mentioned above, the other Members will be free to suspend concessions initially negotiated with the Member concerned to the extent that they consider that adequate compensation is not offered by the Member concerned.

ANNEX

Members which have requested an extension of the time-limit of the above waiver

Argentina  
Australia  
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Brunei Darussalam  
Bulgaria  
Canada  
Costa Rica  
Czech Republic  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Iceland  
India  
Indonesia  
Israel  
Korea  
Malaysia  
Malta  
Mexico  
Morocco  
New Zealand  
Norway  
Pakistan  
Panama  
Paraguay  
Philippines  
Slovak Republic  
Slovenia  
South Africa  
Switzerland  
Thailand  
Tunisia  
United States  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

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