

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/C/W/108

20 March 1998

(98-1140)

Council for Trade in Goods
21 April 1998

ZAMBIA - RENEGOTIATION OF SCHEDULE LXXVIII

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-Limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES to GATT 1947, by their Decision of 26 November 1993¹, suspended the application of the provisions of Article II of GATT 1947 to the extent necessary to enable the Government of Zambia to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 January 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Taking into account that by successive Decisions, the time-limit of the waiver has been extended until 30 April 1998²;

Considering that by a Decision of 31 January 1995³ the General Council established a list of waivers existing at the time of entry into force of the WTO Agreement, which included the waiver granted to Zambia for the renegotiation of its Schedule LXXVIII;

Taking into account that the relevant documentation necessary for renegotiations under Article XXVIII was circulated in document G/SECRET/HS/8 on 12 March 1996;

Considering that the Government of Zambia has initiated negotiations with three trading partners and has concluded negotiations with one of them;

Considering that the Government of Zambia, having fulfilled the requirements of paragraph 1 of the Understanding in Respect of Waivers of Obligations under the GATT 1994, has requested a further extension of the exemption of its obligations under Article II of GATT 1994⁴;

The General Council, acting pursuant to the provisions of Article IX of the WTO Agreement,

Decides, in view of the exceptional circumstances outlined above, to extend the waiver granted to Zambia by the Decision of 26 November 1993, until 31 October 1998.

¹BISD, 40S/102.

²WT/L/242.

³WT/L/3 + Corr. 1.

⁴G/L/228.