

GATT/AIR/117

24 July 1957

SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON 6 AUGUST

I HAVE RECEIVED A COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DATED 19 JULY 1957 NOTIFYING THE MEASURES INTRODUCED ON 1 JULY WHICH MODIFY THE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS MAINTAINED BY INDIA FOR BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS REASONS. THE GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT ON LICENSING POLICY FOR THE PERIOD JULY - SEPTEMBER 1957 IS ATTACHED HERETO. THESE MODIFICATIONS APPEAR TO CONSTITUTE A "SUBSTANTIAL INTENSIFICATION" OF INDIA'S IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND THEREFORE THE CHAIRMAN AND I HAVE DETERMINED THAT THERE IS A PRIMA FACIE CASE FOR INITIATION OF A CONSULTATION UNDER ARTICLE XII:4 (b).

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERSESSIONAL PROCEDURES I PROPOSE THAT THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE SHOULD MEET AT 3.30 P.M. ON 6 AUGUST TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL INTENSIFICATION IN THE SENSE OF ARTICLE XII:4(b) AND TO SO TO INVITE THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO CONSULT WITH THE CONTRACTING PARTIES AND TO INITIATE THE CONSULTATION. THE COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE CONSULTATION.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM ME OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, AND OTHER CONTRACTING PARTIES SHOULD NOTIFY THE NAMES OF ANY OBSERVERS THEY PROPOSE TO SEND TO THE MEETING.

I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM THE CONTRACTING PARTIES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAS AGREED TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS ON ITS IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IN THE 1957 CONSULTATIONS PROGRAMME AND HAS PROPOSED THAT THIS CONSULTATION SHOULD BE HELD DURING THE TWELFTH SESSION.

E. WYNDELM WHITE