

GATT/AIR/196

21 JUNE 1960

SUBJECT: CHILEAN DISASTERS

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA HAS CONVENED AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK ON 28 JUNE TO CONSIDER MEASURES OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO CHILE IN VIEW OF THE RECENT NATURAL DISASTERS WHICH HAVE CAUSED LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY.

IN VIEW OF THE HEAVY STRAIN IMPOSED BY THESE DISASTERS ON CHILE'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES I PROPOSE TO OFFER THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT A MORATORIUM ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE 1960 GATT BUDGET. WHILE THE AMOUNT IS NOT SIGNIFICANT IN RELATION TO THE BURDENS FALLING UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE THIS ACTION WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE AN INDICATION OF THE SYMPATHY OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES AND A GESTURE OF THEIR GOODWILL; AT THE SAME TIME IT WOULD NOT CREATE ANY SERIOUS DIFFICULTY FOR THE FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES.

IF NO OBJECTIONS ARE RECEIVED PRIOR TO 28 JUNE I INTEND TO INFORM THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ECLA OF THIS MORATORIUM AS A DECISION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

---

SENT BY : Executive Secretary, GATT, Tel. address : ICITO GENEVA

ENVOYÉ PAR : Secrétaire Exécutif, GATT, Adresse télégraphique : ICITO GENÈVE