

GATT/AIR/243

24 JULY 1961

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE I AUSTRALIA - ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX
ON WOOLLEN GOODS

CONTRACTING PARTIES WERE INFORMED ON 31 MAY 1961 (L/1497) THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN ACTION UNDER THE PROCEDURES OF ARTICLE XIX WITH RESPECT TO TARIFF CONCESSIONS ON CERTAIN SPECIFIED WOOLLEN GOODS BOUND IN PART I OF SCHEDULE I.

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT. THE LATTER HAS AGREED TO CONSULT IN THIS MATTER BUT THE CONSULTATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE REQUESTED AN EXTENSION UNTIL 31 OCTOBER 1961 OF THE TIME LIMIT, PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH 3(a) OF ARTICLE XIX, WITHIN WHICH AFFECTED COUNTRIES MAY WITHDRAW SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS FROM AUSTRALIA.

ACCORDINGLY, I AM CIRCULATING THE FOLLOWING DRAFT DECISION AND THE ATTACHED BALLOT PAPER WITH THE REQUEST THAT CONTRACTING PARTIES CAST THEIR VOTES BY 31 AUGUST 1961

"DECISION EXTENDING THE TIME LIMIT IN ARTICLE XIX:3(a) FOR
NOTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING PARTIES OF ANY SUSPENSION OF
OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS IN CONNEXION WITH THE ACTION BY
THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER ARTICLE XIX WITH RESPECT TO
CERTAIN WOOLLEN GOODS

"CONSIDERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA HAS TAKEN ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX AFFECTING CONCESSIONS LISTED IN PART I OF SCHEDULE I (ITEMS ex 105 (F) (1) AND ex 105 (E) (1)),

"CONSIDERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA IS CONSULTING WITH OTHER CONTRACTING PARTIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE XIX, IN RESPECT OF THIS ACTION, AND

"CONSIDERING THAT THE SAID CONSULTATIONS WILL NOT HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED IN TIME FOR A GOVERNMENT TO AVAIL ITSELF, IN THE EVENT OF FAILURE OF A CONSULTATION, OF ITS RIGHT TO SUSPEND EQUIVALENT OBLIGATIONS OR CONCESSIONS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 3(a) OF ARTICLE XIX,

"THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

"DECIDE THAT, WITH RESPECT TO THE AUSTRALIAN ACTION REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE PERIOD PRESCRIBED IN ARTICLE XIX:3(a) SHALL END ON 31 OCTOBER 1961."

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

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