

GATT/AIR/54

29 SEPTEMBER 1954

SUBJECT: CEYLON APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL EXTENSION OF RELEASE UNDER ARTICLE XVIII COVERING SARONGS

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON HAS ADVISED, BY A TELEGRAM DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1954, THAT IT WOULD BE "GRATEFUL FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES FOR CONTINUATION OF RELEASE FOR SARONGS TILL DISCUSSION AT THE NINTH SESSION". THIS IS ONE OF THE ITEMS FOR WHICH THE CONTRACTING PARTIES GRANTED A RELEASE UNDER ARTICLE XVIII. THE RELEASE EXPIRED ON 13 AUGUST 1954.
2. THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON HAS ALSO INDICATED THAT IT INTENDS TO SUBMIT AT THE NINTH SESSION APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF CERTAIN RELEASES PREVIOUSLY GRANTED AND FOR NEW RELEASES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS. THIS ITEM WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA, AND A DOCUMENT WILL BE CIRCULATED WITH THE AGENDA, LISTING THE ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE CEYLON REQUEST.
3. IN VIEW OF THE SHORT PERIOD BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE SESSION, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON BE AUTHORIZED TO MAINTAIN THE MEASURE RELATING TO COTTON SARONGS, AS COVERED BY THE RELEASE OF 13 AUGUST 1949, UNTIL THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TAKE A DECISION ON CEYLON'S NEW APPLICATIONS AT THE NINTH SESSION. IF THIS PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES, THERE WILL BE NO NEED TO CONVENE THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE XVIII. SHOULD, HOWEVER, ANY CONTRACTING PARTY CONSIDER THAT THE COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE XVIII SHOULD MEET BEFORE THE NINTH SESSION TO CONSIDER THE EXPIRED RELEASE, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHOULD BE INFORMED WITHOUT DELAY AND THE QUESTION WOULD BE DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERSESSIONAL PROCEDURE APPROVED BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES ON 10 AUGUST 1949 (VOL.II, BASIC INSTRUMENTS AND SELECTED DOCUMENTS, PAGES 60 AND 61).

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