

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE
Thirteenth Session of the Contracting Parties

Provisional Accession of Switzerland to the
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Under the terms of a Declaration and of a Resolution, Switzerland will accede provisionally to the General Agreement and will take part in the work of the Contracting Parties.

The accession of Switzerland follows the completion of tariff negotiations between Switzerland and a number of contracting parties. These negotiations opened in May 1958.

The Declaration is the instrument of provisional accession. By this Declaration a number of contracting parties agree that the trade between the signatories and Switzerland will be governed by the terms of the General Agreement. The Declaration remains open for acceptance, by signature or otherwise until 30 June 1959 (a) by contracting parties which have successfully carried out negotiations with Switzerland, (b) by contracting parties which have not conducted or concluded such negotiations but have agreed with the Swiss Government that their trade relations should be governed by the terms of the Declaration and (c) by the Swiss Government.

The Declaration becomes effective between Switzerland and any contracting party thirty days after it has been accepted by Switzerland and by that contracting party.

The Declaration remains in force until Switzerland accedes to the General Agreement, as a full member, under the terms of Article XXXIII or until 31 December 1961, whichever date is earlier, unless it has been agreed by the parties to the Declaration to extend its validity.

Under the terms of the Declaration the Swiss Government has reserved its position regarding the provisions of paragraph 6 of Article XV which requires that any contracting party which is not a member of the International Monetary Fund shall enter into a special exchange agreement with the Contracting Parties. In this connexion the Swiss Government undertakes that it will act in exchange matters in accordance with the intent of the General Agreement and, in particular, undertakes not, by exchange action, to frustrate the intent of the provisions of the General Agreement.

The Swiss Government has also reserved its position with regard to the application of the provisions of Article XI of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to permit the Government to apply import restrictions under certain Federal Laws. The Swiss Government will endeavour to apply import

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restrictions under these Laws in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination. At each annual session of the Contracting Parties, so long as the Declaration remains in force, the Swiss Government will report to the Contracting Parties on the import restrictions still being maintained and, if requested by the Contracting Parties, will enter into consultation with them regarding such measures.

Under the terms of the Declaration Switzerland undertakes to enter into consultations with the Contracting Parties with a view to finding ways and means for full accession to the General Agreement.

The Resolution embodies a Decision of the Contracting Parties to invite Switzerland to participate in their sessions and in the sessions of subsidiary bodies established by them.

The Decision takes effect when approved by no less than two thirds of the contracting parties. It continues in effect until Switzerland accedes under the provisions of Article XXXIII or until 31 December 1961, whichever date is earlier, unless the Contracting Parties agree to extend it to a later date.

The Swiss Schedule of tariff concessions will not be published before 15 December, 1958.

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