

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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## INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 1996 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS

### NORWAY – SCHEDULE XIV

#### Request for a Waiver

The following communication, dated 9 September 2002, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Norway.

Norway has the honour to refer to the Decisions<sup>1</sup> made by the General Council on 13 December 1995, 18 July 1996, 24 April 1997, 24 April 1998, 14 October 1998, 15 June 1999, 4 November 1999, 3 May 2000, 8 December 2000, 8 May 2001 and 13 May 2002, by which the time limits for Norway, and other Members, were extended for the introduction of Harmonized System 1996 changes into WTO Schedules of Concession. The Norwegian waiver expires on 31 October 2002.

Norwegian documentation concerning HS96 changes to its Schedule XIV has been submitted on 27 December 1995, 31 January 2001 and 2 July 2002<sup>2</sup>. The documentation submitted on 2 July 2002 contained rectifications made as a result of concluded consultations with four Members having previously made reservations to Schedule XIV. All reservations have now been lifted.

The 90 day time limit by which Members will have to notify objections to the rectifications mentioned above (G/SECRET/HS96/11/Add.1, circulated on 5 August 2002), will expire by 3 November 2002. Due to the possibility of objections, Norway hereby requests a waiver of the obligations of Article II of GATT 1994, until 30 April 2003, for the purpose of enabling Norway to implement the 1996 amendments to the Harmonized System to Schedule XIV – Norway.

Without precluding any future requests for further extensions regarding this matter, it is the view of Norway that the changes to Schedule XIV will be approved and formally certified within the next six months.

<sup>1</sup> WT/L/124+Corr.1, WT/L/173, WT/L/216, WT/L/243, WT/L/268, WT/L/281, WT/L/303, WT/L/338, WT/L/351, WT/L/379, WT/L/400 and WT/L/459.

<sup>2</sup> G/SECRET/HS96/11+Corr.1+Add.1