

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Council for Trade in Goods
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SRI LANKA – ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE VI

Request for Extension of Time-Limit

The following communication, dated 14 September 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka.

I refer to the fax of 24 August 1999, on the above subject.

I have been instructed by my authorities in Sri Lanka to furnish the following information with regard to Sri Lanka's request for extension of time-limit for the current waiver, which expires on 31 October 1999.

1. Date of original waiver: 8 November 1988.
2. Date of submission of document relevant to the HS implementation: 12 January 1990.
3. Number of extensions and dates when granted: nineteen extensions, as follows: 24/07/89; 16/07/90; 07/12/90; 01/07/91; 04/12/91; 20/07/92; 03/12/92; 19/07/93; 17/01/94; 21/07/94; 09/12/94; 31/08/95; 13/12/95; 18/07/96; 16/07/97; 22/10/97; 30/04/98; 14/10/98, and 15.06.99 (granted with retroactive effect 30.04.99).
4. Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been initiated: Five (Australia, European Union, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States).
5. Number of countries with which Article XXVIII negotiations have been concluded: One.
6. Status of outstanding Article XXVIII negotiations as well as a general outline of relevant problems, if any:

Sri Lanka continues to make every effort to conclude negotiations under Article XXVIII. Following its most recent initiatives in this respect, Sri Lanka is about to conclude its negotiations with two countries where only finalization of documents now remains to be formally completed.

7. Outlook for concluding the process:

Sri Lanka is hopeful of concluding its negotiations satisfactorily with others too, before long. However, for concluding these negotiations with all the concerned trading partners, it may require at least one more extension of time. Hence, the Government of Sri Lanka will be deeply

appreciative of a further extension of six months to conclude the outstanding negotiations. The Government of Sri Lanka assures its trading partners in these negotiations that every effort will be made to conclude the negotiations satisfactorily and in the mutual interest of all concerned as soon as possible.
