

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/L/230
24 March 1998

(98-1181)

Council for Trade in Goods
21 April 1998

Original: Spanish

NICARAGUA - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XXIX

Request for Extension of Waiver

The following communication, dated 18 March 1998, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua.

I refer to your communication of 16 March 1998 requesting factual information on the status of the extension of the waiver concerning Schedule XXIX.

The facts are as follows:

- The original waiver was granted on 26 January 1994, and was extended in December 1994, December 1995, July 1996, April 1997 and October 1997.
- The relevant documentation was submitted on 28 July 1995. On the expiry of the time-limit of three months, two countries had reserved their right to conduct negotiations.
- As of today, one of these countries has still not submitted any request to initiate negotiations.
- The other country sent us a communication in March 1997, but we have been unable to reply owing to changes in our Mission and staff shortages. Nevertheless, during the present month we have been in communication with that country and believe that the negotiations can be concluded shortly.
- We have submitted all the documentation and demonstrated our wish to complete the process as soon as possible; nevertheless, given the above-mentioned circumstances, we find ourselves obliged to request a further extension of the original waiver.