

PROCEDURES FOR MODIFICATION AND RECTIFICATION OF SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS

*Decision of 26 March 1980
(L/4962)*

Recalling that the CONTRACTING PARTIES established on 19 November 1968 a procedure for the certification of changes to Schedules annexed to the General Agreement.¹

Considering the importance of keeping the authentic texts of Schedules annexed to the General Agreement up to date and of ensuring that they tally with the texts of corresponding items in national customs tariffs;

Considering that, in consequence, changes in the authentic texts of Schedules which record rectifications of a purely formal character or modifications resulting from action taken under Article II, Article XVIII, Article XXIV, Article XXVII and Article XXVIII shall be certified without delay;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES decide that:

1. Changes in the authentic texts of Schedules annexed to the General Agreement which reflect modifications resulting from action under Article II, Article XVIII, Article XXIV, Article XXVII or Article XXVIII shall be certified by means of Certifications. A draft of such change shall be communicated to the Director-General within three months after the action has been completed.

2. Changes in the authentic texts of Schedules shall be made when amendments or rearrangements which do not alter the scope of a concession are introduced in national customs tariffs in respect of bound items. Such changes and other rectifications of a purely formal character shall be made by means of Certifications. A draft of such changes shall be communicated to the Director-General where possible within three months but not later than six months after the amendment or rearrangement has been introduced in the national customs tariff or in the case of other rectifications, as soon as circumstances permit.

3. The draft containing the changes described in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be communicated by the Director-General to all the contracting parties and shall become a Certification provided that no objection has been raised by a contracting party within three months on the ground that, in the case of changes described in paragraph 1, the draft does not correctly reflect the modifications or, in the case of changes described in paragraph 2, the proposed rectification is not within the terms of that paragraph.

4. Whenever practicable Certifications shall record the date of entry into force of each modification and the effective date of each rectification.

5. The procedure of Certification under this Decision may be applied for the establishment of consolidated Schedules or of new Schedules under paragraph 5(c) of Article XXVI, wherein all changes are modifications or rectifications referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2.

6. This Decision supersedes the Decision of 19 November 1968.

¹ BISD 16S/16.