COUNCIL
9-10 November 1971

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL

With the object of facilitating the discussion of Item 3 on the Council's agenda for its 9-10 November meeting, the secretariat has prepared the attached draft of a possible decision establishing a standing Working Party on pollution control and international trade.
Draft Terms of Reference for Standing Working Party on Pollution Control and International Trade

The CONTRACTING PARTIES

Noting that efforts at the national or international level to abate pollution or otherwise protect human environment can have important consequences for international trade,

Desiring to co-operate in this sphere with a view to contributing to the effective operation of the General Agreement and the attainment of its objectives,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the General Agreement, in particular Articles III, XI, XVI, XX, XXII, XXIII and XXXVII,

Recognizing that, in appropriate cases, examinations between contracting parties of the possible effects on the operation of the General Agreement of measures taken by national governments to protect human environment may be desirable and that such examinations are likely to be most fruitful if they are undertaken at an early stage in the planning or implementation of such measures,

Desiring to establish appropriate and flexible procedures which would facilitate consultations between contracting parties,

Decide to establish a standing Working Party whose main functions would be:

1. to discuss, as they arise, any matters relevant to the trade policy aspects of measures to protect human environment, especially with regard to the application of the provisions of the General Agreement,
2. to arrange, at the request of a contracting party, consultations on such matters,
3. to report on its activities to the Council.