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 Group on Protection of the Human Environment
Pollution Control and International Trade

The CONTRACTING PARTIES

Noting that efforts at the national or international level to control pollution and to 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,

Recognizing that, in appropriate cases, examinations between contracting parties of the possible effects on the operation of the General Agreement of measures to control pollution and protect human environment may be desirable and that such examinations should be fruitful if they are undertaken at the appropriate time,

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

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

1. to examine, upon request, any specific matters relevant to the trade policy aspects of measures to control pollution and protect human environment, especially with regard to the application of the provisions of the General Agreement, taking into account the particular problems of developing countries.

2. to report on its activities to the Council.