1. Anti-dumping practices

   - Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices (C/M/129)

At its meeting on 6 November 1978 the Council considered the tenth annual report by the Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices relating to the period October 1977 to October 1978 (L/4711). The Committee had had two meetings in which it examined the anti-dumping practices in various countries. Particular attention had been given to two United States cases, one relating to imports of steel and one concerning imports of television receivers from Japan. The Committee had also examined the anti-dumping legislation of some of its members. It had given particular attention to the new schemes introduced in some countries for imports of steel products, especially the trigger price mechanism of the United States and the basic price system of the European Communities. The Committee had continued its discussion on the problems arising under the Anti-Dumping Code and initiated an examination of eight priority issues identified by the Committee.

The representative of Egypt pointed out that the Anti-Dumping Code had only been accepted by a limited number of contracting parties. The special problems of developing countries in accepting the Code had been examined by a working party some years ago, but it had not been possible to arrive at a solution. He expressed the hope that in the framework of the multilateral negotiations a solution which would facilitate the adherence of developing countries to the Code could be worked out.

The Council took note of the statement and adopted the report.
5. Emergency action and trade restrictive measures

(e) United States

(ii) Proposed action on copper

[The following should be added at the end of this section on page 12 of C/W/309.]

At its meeting on 6 November 1978 the Council was informed by the representative of the United States that the President had determined that the provision of import relief in this regard would not be in the national economic interest of the United States (L/4699/Add.1).

6. Recourse to Article XXIII

(b) EEC

(iv) Refunds on exports of sugar

[The following should be added at the end of this section on page 16 of C/W/309.]

At its meeting on 6 November 1978 the Council was informed that consultations under Article XXIII:1 had been held between the two parties concerned. These consultations had not led to a solution of the existing difficulties.

The Council agreed to establish a panel to examine and report upon the issues relating to EEC sugar export practices referred to the CONTRACTING PARTIES by Australia in document L/4701. The Council also authorized its chairman to appoint the chairman and members of the panel in consultation with the parties concerned.

20. Status of Protocols (C/M/129)

At its meeting on 6 November 1978 the Council considered the report of the Director-General (C/W/308) on the status of the Protocols upon which some action was still required by one or more contracting parties. The Council noted that the Protocol introducing Part IV was in force among all contracting parties with the exception of France and Gabon.

The representative of India appealed to the CONTRACTING PARTIES concerned to take the necessary steps for accepting the Protocol Introducing Part IV. He pointed out that questions of differential treatment were presently being negotiated in the MTN and enquired what the position of the Community would be in this regard if one member State had not accepted Part IV.
The Council agreed to recommend to the CONTRACTING PARTIES that the closing date for the acceptance of this Protocol be extended until the close of the thirty-fifth session. The Council approved the text of a draft decision and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

21. Administrative and financial questions

(a) Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration

The following should be added at the end of the section on page 30 of C/W/309.

At its meeting on 6 November 1978 the Council considered the report of the Committee on its meeting in October 1978 (L/4708).

In introducing the report the Chairman of the Committee referred to the statement of outstanding contributions of contracting parties, which in the case of some countries went as far back as 1966. The Committee had expressed its concern at this situation and proposed that the Council should examine a statement of arrears in June or July each year in the hope that governments would be encouraged to pay their contributions earlier. He appealed to the governments which were several years in arrears to make some effort to pay their contributions and perhaps propose a schedule of instalment payments.

He also referred to the discussion on the question of exchange rate problems and to the proposals presented by the Director-General, which aimed to establish temporary measures to protect the further erosion of take-home pay and pensionable remuneration of the professional staff. The Committee had expressed its sympathy and understanding but had felt that trying to find a solution applicable to GATT alone would be incompatible with the common system. The Committee had suggested that the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES should be invited to contact the Chairman of the United Nations General Assembly to convey the concern of the CONTRACTING PARTIES with regard to this problem and in particular its effects on pensionable remuneration of the professional staff.

The Director-General, addressing the Council on the question of exchange rate fluctuations, pointed out that the proposals he had made were intended to prevent further erosion of the take-home pay and pensionable remuneration by setting Swiss franc floors for them. These proposals, in his view, did not represent a deviation from the common system and were similar to arrangements in force in other organizations within the system. He referred to the
absurd disparity in the levels of pensionable remuneration in New York and Geneva and he urged the CONTRACTING PARTIES to take concrete action and not to defer their responsibility to outside bodies.

The Council agreed to draw the attention of the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their thirty-fourth session to this matter.

The Council approved the text of an agreement between the United Nations and GATT relating to the jurisdiction of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations with respect to applications by staff members under the Regulations of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund.

The Council approved the recommendations in the report of the Committee and recommended the adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their thirty-fourth session of the report, including the recommendations contained therein and the Resolution on the Expenditure of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1979 and the ways and means to meet such expenditure.