Proposed Procedures and Arrangements for the Review

1. Paragraph 4 of Section A and paragraph 3 of Section B of the Declaration of 9 November 1959 on relations between contracting parties to GATT and Poland provide for an annual review of the implementation of the substantive paragraphs of the Declaration. By Decision of 9 November 1959 the CONTRACTING PARTIES accepted to perform such functions as are necessary for the operation of the Declaration. The Declaration came into force on 16 November 1960. It was agreed by the Council in September 1961 that the review provided for in the Declaration should be carried out either by the CONTRACTING PARTIES or by the Council in the first half of 1962 (cf. C/M/8).

2. As the CONTRACTING PARTIES will hold no plenary session during that period, the Council is expected to make arrangements for carrying out the review. It is suggested that for this purpose the Council should appoint a working party, which should be open to participation by all contracting parties which are signatories to the Declaration of 9 November 1959.

3. According to the provisions of the Declaration, the subject matter for the review should be (a) the implementation of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Section A of the Declaration and (b) the implementation of paragraphs 1 and 2 of Section B of the Declaration. In the light of these it would appear that the review could cover the following aspects of the relations between Poland and the contracting parties concerned:

   (a) efforts made and progress achieved in the expansion of trade between Poland and the participating countries;

   (b) any problems arising from the trading relations between Poland and the participating countries; and any representations or consultations that may have been carried out pursuant to paragraph 2 of Section A or of Section B of the Declaration; and

   (c) action taken or arrangements made by Poland for making public its laws, regulations, judicial decisions, administrative rulings and agreements, as well as statistics pertaining to trade, as provided for in paragraph 3 of Section A of the Declaration.
4. In order to facilitate the task of the Working Party it is proposed that the secretariat be instructed to prepare, in consultation with the Government of Poland and those of the participating contracting parties, a document setting out all relevant factual data which may be considered to be useful for the Working Party in its deliberations and in drawing up a report.

5. The secretariat should be instructed to take immediate steps to obtain the necessary information from the governments concerned. The information to be supplied by Poland should cover all the three points referred to in paragraph 3 above. That to be obtained from the participating contracting parties should cover the first two points. This document, prepared by the secretariat, should be available for distribution prior to the opening of the Council meeting in May 1962. The Working Party would then be able to complete the review and draw up a report for adoption by the Council before the close of its May meeting.