PREPARATIONS FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING

Communication from the European Communities
(Suggestions for amendments to document C/W/403)

The Chairman of the Council has received from the delegation of the European Communities the following communication dated 18 November 1982, with the request that it be circulated to the Council in a GATT working document as soon as possible.

1. Declaration, paragraph 5

We propose to eliminate the words: "limit export subsidies having prejudicial effects on trade".

2. Declaration, paragraph 7(i) and (ii)

We propose, after the introductory sentence which ends "individually and jointly" to insert the following to replace the present language in (i) and (ii):

- "to make determined efforts to ensure that trade policies and measures are consistent with GATT principles and rules and to resist protectionist pressures in the formulation and implementation of national trade policy and legislation;

- to refrain from new measures inconsistent with GATT and to seek to avoid measures which would limit or distort international trade, and, where possible, to eliminate such existing measures."

3. Declaration, paragraph 7(vii)

We propose to replace the existing text by the following:

- "to ensure in the agricultural sector, both for market access and for export competition, the full operation of relevant GATT rules, provisions and disciplines inter alia through their common interpretation; to this end a major two-year work programme shall be undertaken."
In the introductory paragraph we propose to delete the text after the word "decide" in line 4, so as to read: "the CONTRACTING PARTIES decide:"

In section I:3 add at the end of the present text the words: "with a view to achieving greater liberalization in the trade of agricultural products."

In section II, line 7, replace the word "effectiveness" by the word "operation".

In section III, first line to read: "an improved and unified system", etc.