GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Consultative Group of Eighteen
Fourteenth Meeting
25-27 March 1981

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. It is suggested that at its fourteenth meeting the Consultative Group of Eighteen should address itself to the following:

1. The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies.
2. Results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and outstanding issues.
3. Structural adjustment and trade policy.
4. The international trading system as it relates to agricultural trade.
5. Trade in services.
7. Investment performance requirements.

Item 1 - The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies

2. Under this item the Group should review the current economic situation and the outlook for international trade. A paper by the secretariat summarizing major developments in 1980 and drawing attention to some problems which may arise from these in the coming year is circulated as a basis for discussion (GATT/1285).

Item 2 - Results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and outstanding issues

3. It has been suggested that the Group should consider progress to date in the implementation of the MTN results, and particularly in the operation of the Codes. This item is intended to provide an opportunity to discuss these matters, and also any questions outstanding from the MTN which members may wish to raise. For the information of the Group the status of acceptances of MTN Codes and Agreements, as of 2 March 1981, has been circulated as CG.18/W/46/Suppl.1. In this connexion, it may also be noted that, since the Group last discussed the matter, the Agreements on Government Procurement and on Customs Valuation, together with its Protocol, have also come into force.
Item 3 - Structural adjustment and trade policy

4. The Group will receive a report from the Working Party on Structural Adjustment and Trade Policy.

Item 4 - The international trading system as it relates to agricultural trade

5. In their first general discussion of questions relating to agriculture it is suggested that members of the Group may like to indicate what they see as the priorities for the Group's future work and to exchange information on the likely development of agricultural production and trade policies, as well as of agricultural markets. The day of Friday, 27 March will be devoted to this item.

Item 5 - Trade in services

6. At its last meeting the Group requested the secretariat to pursue its analysis of the services sector, concentrating on those services which are linked with trade in goods and on the ways in which obstacles to trade in such services may affect commitments under the GATT and the Codes. A paper on this subject has been circulated as document CG.18/W/49.

Item 6 - Rules of origin

7. Also at its last meeting the Group requested the secretariat to prepare a factual note on different systems of rules of origin currently applied in international trade, as a basis for discussion of the need for further work in GATT on this subject. Such a paper has been circulated as CG.18/W/48.

Item 7 - Investment performance requirements

8. A paper on this subject has been prepared by the member for the United States and is circulated at its request as document CG.18/W/51.