1. The future programme for Committee III is set out in document COM.III/17. From this it will be seen that the Committee is expected to get through a very considerable amount of work during its next meetings to be held from 14 to 25 March. The Chairman and the secretariat have given some thought to ways and means of expediting the proceedings and suggest that the Committee, at it's first meeting on 14 March, may wish to consider the adoption of the following procedural arrangements.

2. Members of the Committee have repeatedly stressed the importance and urgency of continuing with the "examination of the trade aspects of the particular measures which have already been identified by the Committee ...". This constitutes Item 1 of the Committee's agenda and will have to be taken up first. The twelve products must be gone over one by one and it is feared that this might take up too much of the Committee's time. In order to gain time it is suggested that the twelve products should not be dealt with one after the other, but that arrangements should be made for the Committee to take up more than one product at the same time. To this end the Committee might, for purposes of this part of the agenda, resolve itself into two Sub-Committees which would be constituted and proceed in the following manner:

(a) The composition of the two Sub-Committees will be decided upon at the opening meeting of the Committee, due account being taken of the wishes of the members. Both Sub-Committees will, however, be open to all members of the Committee and may be attended by other contracting parties and observers in accordance with the normal procedures.

(b) Each Sub-Committee will deal with a group of products (for example, one Sub-Committee might deal with tea, cocoa, coffee, vegetable oils and seeds and tobacco, and the other with copper, lead, timber,
jute manufactures, cotton and cotton manufactures). The exact allocation of the products between the two Sub-Committees will be decided upon at the opening meeting of the Committee. However, if the convenience of one or more delegations should so require, the Chairman of the Committee might decide at any time during the meetings to transfer a commodity from one Sub-Committee to the other.

(c) In scheduling meetings for either Sub-Committee and in tabling products for discussion, due account will be taken of the convenience of delegations.

3. In order that the Committee may proceed in this manner, it is necessary that the delegations are adequately staffed and are prepared to attend two meetings simultaneously. This is particularly so for delegations who are interested in a number of products. The Chairman feels that this is the only manner in which the work of the Committee could possibly be completed in time and sincerely hopes that the contracting parties concerned will make the necessary arrangements so that this procedure can be followed.