1. Committee III recommended in its second report that contracting parties, particularly industrial countries, should examine tariffs, revenue duties and internal charges, quantitative restrictions and other measures applied by them with a view to facilitating the early expansion of the export earnings of less-developed countries (see paragraph 14 of L/1063). At its meeting in March 1960 the Committee carried out a detailed examination of the measures applied in importing countries with regard to eleven commodities (cocoa, coffee, copper, raw cotton, cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, lead, oil seeds and vegetable oils, tea, timber and tobacco). This examination included a review of the progress made in modifying or eliminating obstacles to the expansion of trade of less-developed countries in these products. The findings of the Committee were recorded in the notes attached as Annexes A - K to the Committee's third report (L/1162). Stressing the necessity for a more dynamic approach to the attainment of the objectives of Committee III, the Committee recommended that contracting parties, particularly industrial countries, after taking into consideration the specific points raised in Annexes A - K, should report in September at the latest on further progress made towards the modification or elimination of obstacles.

2. Following this recommendation a number of contracting parties have advised the secretariat of various measures taken by them affecting products which they consider to be of interest to less-developed countries including those products which have been examined by the Committee and/or the products currently under examination by the Committee (bicycles, sewing machines, electric fans, diesel engines, electrical motors, finished leather, footwear, leather goods, iron ores, sporting goods and aluminium, alumina and bauxite).

3. The Government of Sweden states that the liberalization measures introduced by Sweden on 1 April 1960 have removed all remaining restrictions against imports from less-developed countries of the products which have been reviewed or are currently under review by the Committee.
4. Effective 1 July 1960 the Government of Norway removed import restrictions from a number of products of interest to less-developed countries. These products included uncleaned feathers and down, carpets, a number of fruits including pineapples, a number of vegetables and certain feedingstuffs, coffee essences and extracts, coffee preparations, cocoa shells and waste, cocoa paste, certain articles of wood, and sports equipment. At the same time the level of internal taxes on chocolate was reduced.

5. The geographical area to which the Norwegian liberalization measures applied was extended to include all less-developed countries. In addition, various global quotas established for commodities under quantitative restrictions were increased. Those of importance to less-developed countries included the quotas for linseed oil and other vegetable oils, cleaned feathers and down, and basketware. The area to which global quotas applied was also extended to include all less-developed countries.

6. As from 1 July 1960 the Federal Republic of Germany removed quantitative restrictions on all imports of aluminium, alumina and bauxite.

7. The Government of Austria removed from import restriction, on 15 July 1960, various products of interest to less-developed countries. These products included coffee, rice, copra, linseed oil, olive oil and certain other oils, fruit juices, metallic minerals, certain cork and wood products, coir yarn, cord and rope, and certain electric goods.

8. In addition to the progress reports submitted by the above-mentioned countries the secretariat considers it useful to draw the attention of the Committee to measures which have been taken by contracting parties in fulfilling their obligations under the General Agreement and which, at the same time, contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Committee. For the most part the measures which have been selected and described below are those which might affect products which have been or are being examined by the Committee and do not necessarily include all products which may be of interest to less-developed countries.

9. On 1 March 1960 the Danish Government announced the liberalization of imports of a number of commodities from all sources. Included among these commodities were raw hides and skins, leather and articles of leather, toys and sports requisites. Denmark also informed the CONTRACTING PARTIES during the sixteenth session that the turnover tax on cocoa beans would be reduced.
10. Early in March 1960 dollar discrimination was removed by New Zealand in respect of imports of timber. The "token" scheme was expanded to include roasted coffee and coffee essences, products for which no allocation existed previously. In addition, the basic allocation was increased for various leathers.

11. Effective 1 April 1960 the Australian Government announced the liberalization of imports of timber from all sources. As from 20 May Australia ceased to apply emergency restrictions which had come into effect on 1 April 1959 under the provisions of Article XIX of the General Agreement in respect of casual footwear. Imports of footwear were to be admitted under the import replacement plan which means virtually unrestricted importation from all sources.

12. Effective 1 June 1960 the Italian Government liberalized imports of cocoa paste, powder and cocoa butter (unsweetened), various cotton manufactures and certain oil seeds from the dollar area.

13. The Government of Japan added a number of items to the Automatic Fund Allocation System effective 1 July 1960. Under this system import licences are issued upon application without limit. Items of importance to less-developed countries which have been placed under this system include sporting goods and parts and accessories thereof excluding fishing rods and golf balls, household sewing machines and heads, and horizontal water-cooled diesel engines (not over 30 h.p.). At the same time discrimination against the dollar area was removed with respect to cattle hides, calf skins and pig skins. With effect from 1 October 1960 it is the intention of the Government of Japan to add to the Automatic Approval System or the Automatic Fund Allocation System travel goods (trunks, suitcases, handbags, toilet cases, etc.), footwear, wooden products, articles of basketware or of wicker-work, toys and goods for billiards and other games.