ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS RELEVANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART IV

The following notification on the implementation of Part IV has been received from the Government of Italy and should be included in Annex II of COM.TD/60.

ITALY

1. With respect to the reduction or elimination of customs duties on products of export interest to developing countries, Italy has participated as a member of the European Economic Community in the advance implementation of Kennedy Round concessions for the benefit of developing countries.

2. As regards restrictions applied on such products, Italy has not intensified the restrictive measures applied on certain products as reported in document COM.TD/W/76. Some of the products included in that list will be freed of restrictions in the very near future.

3. The following measures have been taken to encourage trade promotion activities:

(a) In the context of arrangements for participation by other countries in trade fairs, the major Italian fairs are offering free space and a contribution towards the installation of stands for developing countries interested in presenting and advertising their products in the Italian market. In this connexion, consideration is being given to the possibility of organizing consultations in certain sectors - in particular with respect to finished industrial products that are of interest to many exporting countries - between producers in developing countries and Italian businessmen in the same sectors, in order to examine production and marketing problems affecting the products concerned.

(b) All Italian trade missions visiting developing countries to study possibilities for marketing Italian products now include wholesale importers interested in purchasing goods produced by those countries.

(c) Trade missions from developing countries, visiting Italy, now include exporters interested in expanding or launching sales of their products in the Italian market.

4. Lastly, mention should be made of vocational training activities:

(a) The IRI (Industrial Reconstruction Institute) organizes a specialized course which is already well-known and appreciated; each year, more than 100 representatives of various activities in developing countries make a
study visit to Italy lasting about eight months. Eight places are reserved for candidates proposed by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT. For these candidates in particular the course offers specialized instruction, in practical terms, concerning modern techniques of international trade, banking and export promotion.

(b) The ENI (National Hydrocarbon Authority) offers similar training courses for nineteen persons at the Enrico Mattei Institute at San Donato Milanese.

(c) Five study grants are available for candidates from developing countries, enabling them to participate in the graduate course in foreign trade organized by the ICE (Foreign Trade Institute) under the auspices of the Ministry of External Trade.

(d) In March 1968, a mission comprising ten senior officials from six Central and South American countries visited Italy (the costs of their stay were borne by the Ministry of External Trade) to study the organization of export promotion techniques in Italy. This mission was arranged by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT in co-operation with the Organization of American States, in the context of the programme of missions to West European countries.