GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Sub-Committee on Trade of Least-Developed Countries
14 October 1985

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda for the eighth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade of Least-Developed Countries includes the following items:

(i) Ad hoc Consultations between least-developed countries and their trading partners; consultations with the Democratic Republic of Sudan

2. It was decided at the fourth meeting of the Sub-Committee in May 1983 that ad hoc consultations be organized in the Sub-Committee between interested individual least-developed countries and their trading partners on issues related to their export interests, including the examination of barriers to their trade and any other relevant commercial policy matters. For the purposes of this consultation a background note on the Democratic Republic of Sudan has been prepared by the secretariat (COM.TD/LLDC/W/26). A submission by the Democratic Republic of Sudan for the purpose of the consultations has been circulated as COM.TD/LLDC/W/28.

(ii) Follow-up on previous ad hoc consultations with Bangladesh and the United Republic of Tanzania

3. In the course of the ad hoc consultations between Bangladesh and the United Republic of Tanzania and their respective trading partners, it was agreed that the Sub-Committee would have an opportunity in the future to revert to issues raised during these consultations. Bangladesh and the United Republic of Tanzania have expressed their wish for the Sub-Committee to examine at this meeting certain issues raised during their consultations. Specific requests for improvements in conditions of access to developed country markets are contained in documents COM.TD/LLDC/W/10/Rev.1 for Bangladesh and COM.TD/LLDC/W/18 and Add.1 for the United Republic of Tanzania. For Bangladesh, the proceedings of the ad hoc consultations are contained in document COM.TD/LLDC/6. The first follow-up to these consultations was carried out at the Sixth Meeting of the Sub-Committee, the proceedings of which are recorded in COM.TD/LLDC/7. The latter document also contains an account of the consultations held between the United Republic of Tanzania and its trading partners.

(iii) Proposals for further actions in favour of the least-developed countries

4. At the Sixth Meeting of the Sub-Committee in October 1984, the Chairman outlined a summary of proposals, including his own, which had been made in the course of the meeting, taking into account the decisions concerning the least-developed countries which had been taken by Ministers at the Thirty-Eighth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in November 1982. At the Seventh Meeting of the Sub-Committee, held on 24 June 1985, the Sub-Committee held preliminary discussions on the proposals. These
discussions are summarised in document COM.TD/LLDC/8. The Sub-Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a note with annotations on the proposals which would be considered at the present meeting. A note by the secretariat has been prepared in response to this request and is contained in document COM./LLDC/W/27.

(iv) Other matters

5. The Sub-Committee may wish to take up any other matters falling within its terms of reference.