GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Committee on Trade and Development

REVIEW OF PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE COMMITTEE

1. It has been proposed that, at its next meeting to be held on 7 and 8 June 1966, the Committee deal with the following subjects (see provisional agenda in COM.TD/W/23):

(a) implementation of Part IV of the General Agreement: review of the reporting procedures;

(b) quantitative restrictions: arrangements for discussion of restrictions and for action on reports from governments;

(c) expansion of trade among less-developed countries: arrangements for discussion of non-tariff measures;

(d) participation of less-developed countries in the Kennedy Round: review of recent developments (tropical products, list of products of interest to developing countries, etc.);

(e) date and agenda for the Montevideo meeting.

2. This agenda has been drawn up on the assumption that the Committee would currently wish to focus its attention on matters related to the activities of the Kennedy Round and other matters which require, and lend themselves to, examination between now and September 1966. The following is a review of other matters which the Committee might wish to take up for consideration or appropriate examination by its subsidiary bodies at a suitable later date.

(a) Adjustment assistance measures

Steps will shortly be taken by the secretariat to obtain detailed information from governments as indicated in paragraph 29 of L/2614. After the material has been collected and circulated, arrangements for further detailed examination of the matter as indicated in paragraph 28 of L/2614 may need to be considered by the Committee at the appropriate time.
(b) **Commodity trade problems**

The report to be submitted by the secretariat in connexion with the next review of the implementation of Part IV will, as usual, include material on developments in international commodity trade. The Committee would be in a position to indicate, in the course of that review, the further action that, in its view, should be taken in this field in collaboration, where necessary, with other bodies concerned with these problems.

(c) **Legal amendments to the General Agreement**

(i) **Compensation and suspension of obligations:** The CONTRACTING PARTIES have agreed that the two outstanding issues not covered by the newly adopted Decision on procedures under Article XXIII should be further examined. Governments may wish to have some time to consider these issues further before they are again taken up in the Group on Legal Amendments.

(ii) **Import surcharges:** The CONTRACTING PARTIES have agreed that the secretariat should make a further study of the issues involved with regard to the proposed provisions on the use by developing countries of import surcharges for balance-of-payments reasons. The secretariat has put in hand this study and expects to complete it early in the summer. It would be for the Chairman of the Group to judge whether sufficient material is available to warrant useful discussions and the reconvening of the Group.

(iii) **New proposals:** The CONTRACTING PARTIES have also agreed that the Committee on Trade and Development should have the authority to receive and consider any proposals that might be put forward by less-developed countries for improving the provisions of the General Agreement which were relevant to the Committee's work (SR.23/10, page 157). Any proposals of this kind, when received, will have to be considered first by the Committee before they are referred to the Legal Group.

(d) **Trade and aid studies**

The CONTRACTING PARTIES have endorsed the conclusions and the recommendations of the Committee as set out in paragraph 52 of L/2614. Such follow-up action as has been assigned to the secretariat is being taken. The secretariat will, at the appropriate time, present proposals for examination of other studies of this nature.
(e) **Preferences by industrialized countries to less-developed countries**

The secretariat has not submitted the requested report on progress of discussions in other organizations. This is because little significant discussion has taken place. The Committee may expect to receive such a report later in the year.

(f) **Records and documentations**

The Committee has agreed that the secretariat should compile literature for publication to show the progress made in GATT in the field of trade and development. The secretariat has taken in hand the preparatory work on the subject.