Committee on Trade and Development
Sixty-First Session
22 June 1987

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE URUGUAY ROUND

1. The technical co-operation programme of the GATT secretariat in the context of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Negotiations was considered by the Committee on Trade and Development at its Sixtieth Session in November 1986. The Committee had before it, for that purpose, a secretariat document COM.TD/W/445 which gave an outline of the technical co-operation activities.

2. The secretariat has since then been providing technical assistance to developing countries in areas identified in paragraph 12 of document COM.TD/W/445. It has, inter alia, catered to an increasing number of requests from developing countries for data on trade flows, tariffs and non-tariff measures applicable to products of export interest to individual developing countries in different developed country markets. Officials of developing countries have also been approaching the GATT secretariat for briefing on developments in the negotiations.

3. Since the last session of the Committee, six trade policy seminars have been organized by the Technical Co-Operation Division in developing countries. Four of these were national seminars, while two were regional seminars. One of the regional seminars was held in Dakar, Senegal, in April 1987, and was attended by twenty-five participants from seventeen African developing countries. The other was held in Guatemala City in May 1987, for twenty-five officials from the five SIECA countries. Both these regional seminars were organized with financial assistance from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Some other developing countries have also requested the secretariat for its help in organizing seminars on GATT and the Uruguay Round during the course of 1987.

4. The Committee might wish to take note of the work done since the commencement of the Uruguay Round, and to make suggestions on the shape and direction of the technical co-operation programme in the coming months.

1 Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.