1. Evaluation of the Kennedy Round and further consideration of problems of developing countries taken up in the trade negotiations

At its Punta del Este meeting, the Committee recommended that the secretariat should prepare a paper analyzing the results of the Kennedy Round negotiations. A preliminary study of the results of the negotiations with respect to products of interest to developing countries has been circulated in document COM.TD/46 and addenda to assist the Committee in its examination. The secretariat has also circulated certain suggestions in document COM.TD/W/62 which might be relevant to discussions on this subject.

2. Advance implementation of Kennedy Round tariff reductions on products of interest to developing countries

At the final meeting of the Sub-Committee on Participation of Less-Developed Countries in the Kennedy Round, it was agreed that a positive result should be obtained on the question of advance implementation of tariff reductions negotiated in the Kennedy Round, before the first tariff cuts came into effect. The Committee might wish to discuss how this matter may be pursued further. A secretariat paper in this regard has been circulated as COM.TD/W/63.

3. Further consideration of the problem of tropical products

Special machinery on tropical products was established during the Kennedy Round negotiations in accordance with the Ministerial Resolution of 1964 that the question of trade in tropical products would be pursued further with a view to working out procedures and arrangements for their treatment in the trade negotiations.

At the meeting of the Committee in Punta del Este, it was recalled that, at the GATT Ministerial Meeting in 1963, most GATT Ministers had accepted the objective of complete elimination of barriers on tropical products. The Committee also took note of the views of certain developing countries that they could not agree to any elimination or reduction of tariffs affecting tropical products which involved a loss of preferential benefit at present enjoyed by them until adequate compensatory measures had been agreed upon and effectively implemented. Although duty concessions have been granted in respect of many tropical products, the
The objective of duty-free entry was not achieved in the Kennedy Round negotiations largely because the major problem of reconciling the interests of developing countries which were beneficiaries of preferential markets with those which desired free competition on open markets was not resolved. The Committee might wish to discuss what further consideration might be given in its work programme to the problems which exist in this field. A summary table of concessions made on tropical products by most of the developed countries in the Kennedy Round negotiations was circulated by the secretariat for information of contracting parties in L/2808.

4. Import restrictions on products of interest to developing countries

A summary statement of restrictions applied as on 1 June 1967 to products of interest to developing countries has been circulated in document COM.TD/W/60 and corrigendum. It was suggested at the Punta del Este meeting of the Committee that more effective procedures should be devised to deal with import restrictions. Certain suggestions in this regard have been put forward by the secretariat in document COM.TD/W/64.

5. Further work and other questions

The Committee might wish to determine its work programme in the light of its consideration of the aforementioned items of the agenda.

6. Economic problems of Chad

At its eighth session, the Committee agreed on the establishment of a working party to consider, in the light of the provisions of Article XXXVIII, the problems created for Chad by the current world market conditions for raw cotton. The Working Party met in May and submitted a report for consideration by the Committee (COM.TD/44).

7. Trade information and trade promotion

The report of the fourth meeting of the Advisory Group (L/2807) has been circulated to members of the Committee.