Note by the Secretariat

1. At its meeting in October 1974, the Committee of Participating Countries, having undertaken its review of the rules of origin, noted that no problems had been reported by participating countries in the implementation of these rules up to that time. It might also be recalled that Annex A to the Protocol concerning the application of rules of origin states, inter alia, that participating countries shall co-operate with the Committee and shall make available to it the latest information with respect to their rules of origin, procedures and documentation applied in connexion with the determination of origin.

2. It has been brought to the attention of the secretariat that some stamps being used by certain participating countries as well as certain bodies certifying and issuing certificates of origin do not always correspond to the information provided in document CPC/10 and Addenda. It has also been indicated that forms for certification of origin which make no reference to the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries are being used in certain instances.

3. In accordance with the provisions of Annex A of the Protocol, participating countries are invited to notify the secretariat of any changes to their lists of certifying bodies and stamps used. In order to ensure that benefits are obtained from the concessions contained in the schedules annexed to the Protocol, the appropriate authorities in participating countries might be urged to use their best endeavours to see that certificates of origin comply with the arrangements agreed to in the context of the Protocol.