The Committee of Participating Countries provided for in the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries will hold its nineteenth meeting on 30 January 1978 at 3 p.m. in the Centre William Rappard, rue de Lausanne, Geneva. The meeting will also be open to delegations of countries having signed but not yet ratified the Protocol.

The following items have been proposed for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting:

1. Accession of Romania. At its October 1977 meeting, the Committee agreed that it would take up, as necessary, any outstanding matters concerning Romania's application for accession needing attention in accordance with the procedures outlined in paragraph 6 of document CPC/41 (CPC/42, paragraph 4).

2. Ratification of the Protocol.

3. Enlargement of the Protocol. The Committee agreed to revert to matters relating to enlargement (CPC/42, paragraphs 7 and 8). A secretariat note is being circulated.

4. Five year review of the arrangement. Paragraph 5 of the Protocol states, inter alia, that "Not later than the end of the fifth year from the entry into force of this Protocol, the Committee (of Participating Countries) shall undertake a major review of those arrangements to determine whether they should be modified, enlarged or terminated." As the Protocol entered into force on 11 February 1973, such a review should be taken up before 10 February 1978. With respect to this matter, it might be noted that at
the January 1977 meeting of the Committee "there was a general consensus on the importance of a further round of trade negotiations at the appropriate time open to all interested developing countries which would cover tariffs and other trade measures in the framework of the Protocol" (CPC/38, paragraph 11). The Committee might wish at this meeting to initiate the process of review provided for in paragraph 5 of the Protocol and consider how it may proceed further with the matter. In this respect, it might be noted that the secretariat hopes to have completed a large part of the technical work it is undertaking to serve as a basis for assessing the prospects of a new round of negotiations among developing countries prior to the next regular quarterly meeting of the Committee.

5. Other business.