A number of other delegations have referred to the fact that existing trade-agreements legislation in the United States will, if not renewed, expire on June 12 of this year, and have inquired whether in this event, the United States would be able to apply provisionally the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to countries which had not signed the Protocol of Provisional Application prior to the expiration of this legislation.

The interested delegations are informed that the United States will be able to apply provisionally the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, including the concessions initially negotiated with the countries concerned, to all countries signatories of the Final Act at Geneva which have, by June 30, 1948, signed the Protocol of Provisional Application. The United States would not, however, be in a position at this stage to contemplate an amendment to the Protocol of Provisional Application which would extend beyond June 30, 1948 the date by which countries would be permitted to sign the Protocol.

The United States does not propose to accept the General Agreement definitively, that is to say, pursuant to Article XXVI, until it has taken action with respect to the Charter.