GATT COURSES IN AFRICA ON COMMERCIAL POLICY
AND FOREIGN TRADE

The fourteenth course on commercial policy and foreign trade organized by GATT in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa is being held at Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo) from 9 October to 5 November 1968. The course, which is intended for government officials from French-speaking countries in Africa, is financed under the Development Programme of the United Nations. This is the first time that a course of this kind has been held in the Congo.

Seventeen officials from the following countries will be taking part:
Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Togo and Upper Volta.

This course is the fourteenth in a series that began in 1962 and has been attended by more than 250 officials from some twenty African countries. Courses for officials from English-speaking African countries have already been held at Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania), Kampala (Uganda), Nairobi (Kenya), Addis-Ababa (Ethiopia), Lagos (Nigeria), Lusaka (Zambia) and Accra (Ghana). The courses for officials from French-speaking African countries have been held at Dakar (Senegal), Abidjan (Ivory Coast), Yaoundé-Douala (Cameroon), Lomé (Togo) and Tananarive (Madagascar).

The new course at Kinshasa is designed to help officials from African countries to get more closely acquainted with the commercial policy and foreign trade problems which developing countries have to face. The study programme will consist, on the one hand, of lectures and discussions on commercial policy questions and, on the other hand, of practical studies in the form of discussions with senior government officials and business directors on practical problems of interest for the foreign trade of the Congo.
The course is being directed by Mr. Jean Royer, who was Deputy Executive Secretary of GATT from its creation until 1962, when he retired. Since then, Mr. Royer has acted as consultant to a number of international organizations, giving them the benefit of his long experience in problems of commercial policy.

The course at Kinshasa follows the one held at Accra from 26 August to 21 September 1968 which was attended by about a dozen government officials from English-speaking African countries, namely Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Sudan and Uganda. That course was officially opened by the Trade Commissioner of Ghana, Mr. N.F. Ribeiro-Ayeh.