CANADA DECIDES UPON IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION
OF KENNEDY ROUND TARIFF CUTS

At the meeting of the GATT Trade and Development Committee, which was concluded on 5 June, the delegate of Canada stated that the Government of Canada had decided upon the immediate implementation of Canada's tariff reductions negotiated during the Kennedy Round, rather than making the remaining annual reductions until the final step due on 1 January 1972. This advanced implementation covers all items, with the single exception of shoeboard (a paper product). The new reduced Canadian Kennedy Round tariff rates went into effect on 4 June 1969.

Announcing this decision in his budget speech on 3 June, the Canadian Minister of Finance stated that the tariff reductions involved should amount to an average of about three percentage points on imports valued at about $2 billion a year. Among the many products affected by the reductions are canned meat, confectionery, biscuits, breakfast cereals, fruit juices and some other foodstuffs. There will also be reductions on knitted fabrics and garments, on synthetic fabrics and on a number of consumer appliances.