The Trade Negotiations Committee for the new "Tokyo Round" of multilateral trade negotiations met for the first time on 24-26 October 1973 in Geneva. The Director-General of GATT, Mr. Olivier Long, was elected Chairman.

The meeting marked the opening at working level of the trade negotiations.

The Committee discussed which of its concrete tasks should be taken up during this initial phase of the negotiations, and held a first exchange of views on the procedures to be adopted for its work.

The Trade Negotiations Committee is the body that will oversee the multilateral trade negotiations, and was set up by decision of the Tokyo Ministerial meeting. It is required under its mandate to take account of the Declaration issued by the Ministers at the end of their meeting, and:

"(a) to elaborate and put into effect detailed trade negotiating plans and to establish appropriate negotiating procedures, including special procedures for the negotiations between developed and developing countries;

(b) to supervise the progress of the negotiations."

The members of the Trade Negotiations Committee are the countries which have announced their intention to take part in the multilateral trade negotiations. The negotiations are open to all countries, whether or not members of GATT: up to 29 October 1973 83 countries, listed on the following page, had announced their intention to participate.

---

1Press release GATT/1134.
COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN "TOKYO ROUND" TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

(Situation as of 29 October 1973)

*Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium
*Bolivia
*Botswana
Brazil
*Bulgaria
Burma
Canada
Chile
*Colombia
Congo
*Costa Rica
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
Dahomey
Denmark
Dominican Republic
*Ecuador
Egypt
*El Salvador
*Ethiopia
Finland
France
Gabon
Germany, Fed. Rep. of
Ghana
Greece
*Guatemala
*Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
*Iran
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Ivory Coast
Jamaica
Japan
Kenya
Korea
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malaysia
Mauritius
*Mexico
Netherlands, Kingdom of the
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
**Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Senegal
Singapore
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
*Sudan
*Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
*Thailand
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
*Venezuela
Yugoslavia
Zaire
*Zambia

European Communities

* Not Contracting Parties to GATT)
** Acceded provisionally to GATT )