The twenty-ninth Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade will be held in Geneva from 13 to 15 November 1973. The Chairman will be Ambassador B.R. Patel (India).

The General Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1948. The forthcoming session will thus mark the 25th anniversary year of GATT, which now has 83 member governments, together accounting for more than four-fifths of world trade.

This year's session will be shorter than usual, because it comes only a few weeks after the Ministerial meeting in September which launched the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

During the session a main subject for discussion will be the report of the GATT Council, which is authorized to act on urgent or current matters on behalf of the Contracting Parties during the interval between their sessions. In addition to the Council's report, which records action taken during the past year on a wide variety of issues outside the field of the multilateral trade negotiations, representatives of the member countries will consider other reports submitted directly to the Contracting Parties, such as those of the Committee on Trade and Development and of the "Group of Three" (in which the Chairman of the Contracting Parties, Council of Representatives and Committee on Trade and Development report on concrete steps taken by member countries to assist the trade of developing countries).