CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EIGHTEEN

The Consultative Group of Eighteen, established by the GATT Council of Representatives in July 1975, held its first meeting on 24 and 25 November 1975. It elected as its Chairman Mr. Olivier Long, Director-General of GATT.

The Group reviewed the present situation in international trade, as well as recent trade policy developments and exchanged views on the rôle the GATT Contracting Parties can play in maintaining the present level of trade liberalization and in promoting the recovery of international trade.

The Group also discussed the experience of Contracting Parties in dealing with trade measures utilized for balance-of-payments purposes.

The Group will continue its examination of these questions at its next meeting on 24-25 February 1976.

1The Group consists of 18 high-level representatives, nominated by governments, with trade policy responsibilities in their countries. The Group is currently composed of representatives of:

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
Canada
Egypt
European Communities and their member States
Finland
India
Japan
Malaysia
Nigeria
Pakistan
Peru
Poland
Spain
Switzerland
United States
Zaire