SEVENTH MEETING OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EIGHTEEN

The Consultative Group of Eighteen held its seventh meeting on 8 and 9 June 1978. The Chairman was Mr. Olivier Long, Director-General of GATT.

A principal concern of the Group was to assess recent developments and trends in trade policy and in international trade. The Group discussed ways of improving the continuous monitoring by GATT of trade policy actions taken by governments. It also gave special attention to recent protectionist tendencies, and to ways of combating them.

The Group had a first exchange of views on the tasks that are likely to face GATT and the international trading system when the present Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations has been concluded. Among such tasks was to find ways of carrying forward the process of trade liberalization, of maintaining and strengthening the operation of the rules of international trade, and of improving the concertation and management of trade relations in a period of probable economic uncertainty.

The next meeting of the Group will be on 12 and 13 October 1978.

The Consultative Group of Eighteen consists of high level representatives, nominated by governments, with trade policy responsibilities in their countries.

The countries represented in the Consultative Group are:

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