PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR GATT
MINISTERIAL SESSION

The Ministerial-level portion of the annual GATT session will take place in Geneva from 24 to 27 November. The Ministers, representing the 88 governments which are Contracting Parties to the GATT, are meeting "to examine the functioning of the multilateral trading system, and to reinforce the common efforts of the contracting parties to support and improve the system for the benefit of all nations".

The present note sets out information on the arrangements for correspondents covering the meeting.

Place of meeting

The session will take place in the Geneva International Conference Centre, 15 rue de Varembé, Geneva. This is close to the Palais des Nations.

Press facilities

The entire basement of the Centre is devoted to a large and excellently-equipped press area and telecommunications centre. It will be in full operation from 10.00 on Monday, 22 November onwards. Details are given below.

Access to meeting rooms

In general, the meetings are closed to the public and the press. However, the opening ceremony at 0900 on 24 November will be open to the press, including television and film cameramen. (See tentative timetable for the meeting, attached).

1Decision of GATT Contracting Parties, 25 November 1981. The ministerial-level meeting forms part of the Thirty-Eighth Session of the GATT Contracting Parties, which runs from Monday, 22 November to Saturday, 27 November. Meetings on 22 and 23 November will be at the level of officials.

GATT/1325
10 November 1982
Texts of Ministerial statements

It is expected that most Ministers will release the texts of their prepared statements. These will be made available as quickly as possible in the press area.

Briefings

Regular briefings, with interpretation in English and French, will be provided by the GATT press officers in the press area after each session. An initial briefing by the secretariat will be given at 18.00 on Tuesday, 23 November. It is understood that certain national delegations will also provide regular briefings to the accredited press.

Telecommunications

A telecommunications centre, operated by the Swiss PTT, adjoins the press centre. It is equipped with 40 telephone booths and 10 telex machines. It will open at 09.00 each day, and remain open (depending on demand) until 21.00 on 22 November, 23.00 on 23, 24, 25 and 26 November, and 19.00 on 27 November.

Typewriters

Fifty typewriters will be available for use in the press working area.

Television facilities

A room in the press area will be set aside for television correspondents wishing to interview delegates.

Journalists who wish to make use of technical assistance (supplementary equipment, film development, etc.) from the Télévision Suisse Romande should request it by telex as soon as possible from:

Mlle Yvonne Borcard
S S R
Giacomettistrasse 1
3000 Bern 15
Switzerland

Telex: 33161/2 SSR
Telephone: (031) 43 91 15
Radio

Four radio studios in the press area of the Conference Centre will be staffed by the Radio Suisse Romande.

Radio correspondents wishing to use the studios at the Conference Centre are asked to send a telex message as soon as possible to:

Mr. G.C. Pellandini
SSR, Bern
(same address and numbers as for television, above)

advising that they intend to use the radio studios, and also, if possible, giving an indication of what times (GMT) they intend to transmit their broadcasts.

TV and radio studios in Palais des Nations

Journalists accredited to the United Nations, and wishing to use the TV and Radio facilities in the Palais des Nations, should address their requests to:

Mr. G. Grégoire (Tel: 34 60 11 Ext. 2324/5)

Telephone numbers

The telephone number of the conference centre is 34 28 00. The press information desk can be dialled directly: its number will be 99 22 84.

Parking

There is a large underground garage in the Place des Nations, close to the conference centre. (Payment must be made.) In addition, it will be possible for TV crews to unload and load equipment in the rue de Varembé, immediately outside the press entrance to the centre.

Accreditation

Strict security arrangements will be in force at the meeting. Correspondents and photographers covering the meeting must produce appropriate accreditation at the time of registration; this should preferably take the form of a press card issued by a public authority in the country in which they are based, or other accreditation issued by the newspaper, news agency or broadcasting organization represented. Press accreditation issued by the United Nations offices in Geneva, New York or Vienna is acceptable.

The badges issued on accreditation must be worn at all times while in the conference centre.
Registration

Registration at the conference centre will open in the press area in the basement at 10.00 on Monday, 22 November. Early registration during the previous week, at GATT Headquarters in the Centre William Rappard, Geneva, will be possible on 17, 18 and 19 November.

In order to speed up registration at the time of the conference, all correspondents who have not already done so are invited to complete and return to the GATT secretariat as soon as possible the attached provisional registration form for the meeting.
Tentative meeting programme for the GATT Session

Monday, 22 November and Tuesday, 23 November:

Meetings at level of officials

Wednesday, 24 November:

09.00: Opening of Ministerial-level portion of Session (open to the press)

  Statements by Chairman (the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada and Secretary of State for External Affairs), Host Government (Mr. Fritz Honegger, President of the Swiss Confederation, Head of the Federal Department of Public Economy) and Director-General of GATT (Mr. Arthur Dunkel)

  09.30 - 13.00 )  Plenary sessions (closed)
  15.00 - 17.30 )

Thursday, 25 November:

  09.00 - 13.00  -  Plenary session (closed)
                  (No plenary in afternoon)

Friday, 26 November:

  09.00 - 13.00  )  Plenary sessions (closed)
  15.00 - 17.30  )

Saturday, 27 November:

  10.30 - 13.00  -  Ministerial-level session ) closed
  p.m.  -  Official-level session )
GATT Ministerial Meeting, Geneva, 24-27 November 1982

PRESS: PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION

Advance notice of attendance by correspondents and photographers will speed up registration formalities that will be unavoidable because of the strict security in force at the meeting.

If you have not already registered, please complete the form below, and return it as soon as possible to: the Information Service, GATT, Centre William Rappard, 154 rue de Lausanne, 1211 Geneva 21.

Accreditation (see main information note) will still be required on registration.

To: Information Service, GATT, Centre William Rappard, 154 rue de Lausanne, 1211 Geneva 21

GATT Ministerial Meeting, Geneva, 24-27 November 1982

Provisional PRESS Registration

Category: Journalist ☐
              Photographer/TV crew ☐

Name(s) ........................................
           ........................................
           ........................................

Newspaper(s), agency or broadcasting organization represented: ........................................

Please indicate if you expect to use the following facilities at the conference centre:

international telephone ☐
telex ☐
radio studios ☐

Date ............... Signature: .....................