GROUP OF EIGHTEEN DISCUSSES SUBSIDIES AND TRADE-FINANCE LINK

The use of subsidies and their effect on international trade formed a major part of discussions between senior trade officials meeting in Geneva on 4, 5 and 6 April. GATT’s Consultative Group of Eighteen\(^1\) discussed the economic and other motivations which underlie the use of subsidies and the problems which have been encountered in applying the relevant provisions of the General Agreement and the Subsidies Code negotiated during the Tokyo Round.

The Group continued its examination of the linkages between international trade and financial problems and of the manner in which GATT contracting parties, in the field of trade policy, can best contribute to the resolution of the problem of international indebtedness.

The Group also reviewed progress in the implementation of the work programme adopted by Ministers in November 1982.

The next meeting of the Consultative Group of Eighteen will be held in early July 1984.

\(^1\)Governments represented in 1984: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, European Community and Member States, India, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United States, Zaire. The Chairman is Mr. Arthur Dunkel, Director-General of GATT.