During the seventeenth session a working party considered the request of the Government of Argentina to accede to the General Agreement, under the provisions of Article XXXIII.

The Argentine representative indicated that the new customs tariff was in an advanced stage of preparation and that tariff negotiations for accession could only be undertaken when the new tariff had entered into force.

As this process was not likely to be completed in time for Argentina to participate in the 1960-61 Tariff Conference the Contracting Parties agreed, in plenary meeting on 18 November, to the provisional accession of Argentina, pending tariff negotiations which would be initiated at the earliest practicable opportunity after entry into force of the new tariff. At the same time they invited the representative of Argentina to take his place at the table.

Many delegates joined in welcoming most warmly the decision of the Government of Argentina to seek full membership in the General Agreement.

The Declaration on the provisional accession of Argentina has been opened for acceptance.

END