The Tariff Negotiations Committee, which is responsible for the management of the 1960-61 Tariff Conference, have decided that it is now possible to move forward from the first phase which was largely concerned with re-negotiations with the European Economic Community, under the terms of Article XXIV, paragraph 6, to the second phase of the conference, and they have agreed that the general (or "Dillon") round of tariff negotiations will open on 29 May 1961.

The second phase of the Tariff Conference will provide an opportunity for new negotiations to reduce trade barriers, through multilateral techniques. Many countries, including those responsible for a major share of world trade, are expected to participate. In addition, a number of countries, hitherto not contracting parties to GATT, have notified their wish to take part in the general round with a view to acceding to GATT as full members after negotiations with their GATT partners have been successfully concluded.

The list of contracting parties taking part in the general round, and of countries intending to accede, will be made public in due course.

END