GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Twentieth Session of the Contracting Parties

MEETING OF MINISTERS TO BE CONVENED

IN EARLY PART OF 1963

1. The Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, at their twentieth session at Geneva, have agreed that a ministerial meeting should be held in the early part of 1963 to consider a programme for effective liberalization and expansion of trade in both primary and secondary products. In this connexion, full weight should be attached to the importance and urgency of negotiating solutions to the problems of trade in primary products and to the additional trade problems of less-developed countries. The proposal that such a meeting should be held was made jointly by the Governments of the United States and Canada.

2. A precise date for the meeting should be determined by the Council of Representatives.

3. The Council should be convened for this purpose by the Executive Secretary at the earliest possible date that he feels that the necessary elements exist for arriving at a decision.

4. In this connexion, due weight should be attached to the fact that in order to enable the United States to play a full part in a further substantial and early movement for the reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade, it is desirable that the necessary decision to initiate such a movement be taken early in 1963.

5. The Council should at the same time propose an agenda for the meeting of Ministers and make adequate preparation for the meeting.