GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE
Seventh Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

Decision taken by the Contracting Parties concerning the Application of Japan to accede to the GATT

Following the discussion concerning the application of Japan to accede to the GATT which took place on Friday 10 October, (see press release 81) the CONTRACTING PARTIES today approved the following Decision,

"TAKING NOTE of the initiative of the Japanese Government in expressing its desire to accede to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and to enter into tariff negotiations to that end;

NOTING that Article XXXIII provides that a government which is not party to the General Agreement may accede to it on terms to be agreed between such government and the CONTRACTING PARTIES;

RECOGNIZING Japan's desire to co-operate with other trading nations of the world; and

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that Japan should take her rightful place in the community of trading nations and to that end should be admitted to appropriate international arrangements;

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

AGREE that, in order that further consideration may be given to the conditions and timing under which the Japanese application should be pursued, an intersessional committee should make a detailed examination of the matters involved in this application and report on them, the committee being authorised to discuss these matters, as necessary, with Japanese representatives."