Mr. Eric Wyndham White was, on 23 March, named to the newly-created post of Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. This action was taken unanimously by the Contracting Parties to the GATT at their twenty-second session at Geneva.

Mr. Wyndham White has served since 1948 as Executive Secretary of the GATT. In announcing the creation of the new post, Ambassador Julio Lacarte (Uruguay), Acting Chairman of the Contracting Parties, said that the action taken reflected the belief of the Contracting Parties that the new title was more appropriate to the head of the Secretariat of the GATT.

Speaking of Mr. Wyndham White, Ambassador Lacarte said that he had known and worked with him over a period of nineteen years. From the very beginning he had admired the Director-General for his intelligence, his high capacity for work, his tenacity and his complete devotion to the General Agreement. No doubt the Contracting Parties would have further occasions, just as pleasant as this one, to express their appreciation to the Director-General for the manner in which he carries out his highly important work. His personality and his intelligence had contributed to shaping the GATT as it is today. I think we must all agree, Ambassador Lacarte said, that in the past twenty years this Agreement has shown very positive and concrete achievements.

Speaking on behalf of all those present we recognize the great physical and mental strain involved in this very difficult job, and we are thankful for the way he has contributed and will go on contributing to the General Agreement. In short we are delighted to have this opportunity to convey to him our feelings in a positive manner, Mr. Lacarte said.