JOINT STATEMENT BY THE DEVELOPING PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN THE KENNEDY ROUND NEGOTIATIONS

Today when the Kennedy Round of negotiations has come to an end, the developing countries participating in these negotiations wish to state that the most important problems of most of them in the field of trade taken up within the framework of these negotiations, still remain unresolved. These developing countries deeply regret that they are not in a position to share, to the same extent, the satisfaction of the developed countries at the conclusion and the achievements of the Kennedy Round.

On this occasion, the participating developing countries wish to recall that the contracting parties participating in the 1964-67 Trade Conference have recognized that the following questions of outstanding importance to developing countries have not been settled satisfactorily during the negotiations, viz. advance implementation of concessions in favour of developing countries, reduction or elimination of duties on products of particular export interest to developing countries, tropical products, commodity agreements, compensation for loss of preferences and removal of non-tariff barriers.

The developing participating countries urge that appropriate steps be taken to arrange for negotiations and other action at the earliest possible date during the current year, within the framework of GATT, with a view to reaching agreement on these outstanding questions, having regard, in particular, to the 1963 and 1964 GATT ministerial conclusions and resolutions as well as the provisions of Part IV of the General Agreement.