SUBJECT: SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

1. By airgram GATT/AIR/2180, dated 26 July 1985, Contracting Parties were informed of the request from the United States that a special session of the Contracting Parties be held as early as possible in September to initiate discussions on the subject matter and modalities of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations, with a view to improving the functioning of the GATT system and reestablishing a basis for continuing trade liberalization.

2. The request by the United States having been concurred in, as required by Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Contracting Parties (BISD 12S/10), by the majority of the Contracting Parties, a special session will start at 3 P.M. on 30 September 1985 at the International Labour Office in Geneva. The duration of the meeting is not expected to exceed three days.

3. The agenda to be proposed by the Chairman of the Contracting Parties for the session is "Examination of the Subject Matter and Modalities of a Proposed New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations".

4. The attention of Contracting Parties is drawn to the views expressed in the Council debates on 5-6 June and 17-19 July 1985 under the agenda item "Recent Developments in International Trade and their Consequences for GATT, and Status of Implementation of the 1982 Ministerial Work Programme" as well as the relevant communications and statements by Contracting Parties.

5. Contracting Parties and other governments and international organizations with observer status for sessions of the Contracting Parties are invited to inform me of the names of their representatives by Friday 27 September.

A. DUNKEL

1 C/M/190 and C/M/191 respectively
2 Developing countries L/5647 and L/5744, 24 developing countries L/5818 and Add.1, ASEAN countries L/5848, Australia L/5842, Austria L/5849, Brazil L/5852, Canada L/5834 and L/5836, Chile L/5850, EFTA countries L/5804, European Communities L/5835, Japan L/5833, Korea L/5851, New Zealand L/5831, Nordic countries L/5827, Switzerland L/5837, United States L/5838 and L/5846.