SUBJECT: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. As envisaged in a GATT Secretariat communication dated 6 August 1979 sent to developing countries, a meeting to take up the question of the expansion of trade among developing countries will be held on 25 October 1979 commencing at 10 A.M. in the Centre William Rappard, 154 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva.

2. The purpose of the meeting is to exchange views on the preparatory work that has been undertaken by the GATT Secretariat at the request of a large number of developing countries and to consider how further progress might be made towards initiating a new round of trade negotiations among developing countries, both members and non-members of GATT, on a global basis. In this regard delegations may be expected to take account of recent developments in international trade relations and the conclusions to be drawn from the Secretariat's technical documentation forwarded under cover of the communication dated 6 August referred to above as well as the individual country studies done in response to requests addressed to the Secretariat.

3. It has been proposed in this connexion that necessary arrangements be made for the establishment of a trade negotiations committee of developing countries to work out rules and procedures and to supervise the conduct of the negotiations.

4. Governments will have received the following documentation in connexion with the communication dated 6 August:

   TRADE MATRICES (LDC/TS/45)

   TABULATIONS - LISTING MORE PRECISELY DEVELOPING COUNTRY IMPORTERS AND MAIN DEVELOPING COUNTRY SUPPLIERS OF THE PRODUCTS SHOWN IN THE TRADE MATRICES (LDC/TS/46)

   COLLECTION OF BASIC DATA (SPEC/78)26)

   PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION (SPEC/78)26/ADD.1)

   PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENTS AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (LDC/TS/38)
RULES AND CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN (LDC/TS/47)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON MARKET DATA AND MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS IN SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (LDC/TS/49)

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (CPC/W/68 AND CPC/W/70)

5. A NOTE DRAWING ATTENTION TO SOME POINTS RELEVANT TO THE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF A FURTHER ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE MEETING.

6. THE MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHETHER OR NOT CONTRACTING PARTIES TO GATT WISHING TO BE REPRESENTED ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

O. LONG