CONTRACTING PARTIES

Third Session

The Position of Section B (Newfoundland) of Schedule XIX (United Kingdom)

Note by the Secretariat

Document GATT/CP./26 contains a statement by the United Kingdom Delegation to the effect that as from March 31, 1949 the United Kingdom Government ceased to be responsible for Newfoundland and accordingly Section B of Schedule XIX ceased to have effect.

This statement has been discussed with representatives of the countries principally concerned, namely, with Canada of which Newfoundland became a province on 1st April 1949, and with the United States and Australia with which the concessions in Section B of Schedule XIX were initially negotiated. As a result of these discussions it is suggested that the CONTRACTING PARTIES might deal with this question by making the following declaration:
WHEREAS the Government of the United Kingdom, in the course of the negotiations leading to the drawing up of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva in 1947, negotiated on behalf of Newfoundland, as a separate customs territory for which the United Kingdom had international responsibility, and

WHEREAS the concessions to be accorded as a result of such negotiations to the products of other contracting parties entering Newfoundland constituted Section B of Schedule XIX of the General Agreement, and

WHEREAS after becoming a contracting party to the General Agreement the government of the United Kingdom, under paragraph 2 of the Protocol of Provisional Application, notified the Secretary General of United Nations on February 17, 1949 of the application of the General Agreement to Newfoundland, and

WHEREAS the Government of the United Kingdom ceased to be responsible for Newfoundland on 31 March 1949 and Newfoundland became a part of the customs territory of Canada, which is also a contracting party.

The CONTRACTING PARTIES declare that Section B shall be deemed to be no longer a part of Schedule XIX.