CONSOLIDATION OF SCHEDULES TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT

The commitments in respect of customs tariffs negotiated by the contracting parties under the General Agreement, have been extended with each set of negotiations and with successive protocols and rectifications. These commitments are recorded in numerous separate and unconnected documents. The position will be even more complex after the Torquay negotiations. If the Secretariat plan for accession, or something similar to it, is adopted, there will then be:

(i) the 20 schedules annexed to the General Agreement itself, as rectified and modified by various decisions of the Contracting Parties and by five protocols;
(ii) the 18 schedules in Annex A and 10 schedules in Annex B to the Annecy Protocol of Terms of Accession, as rectified by the Fourth Protocol of Rectifications;
(iii) the schedules annexed to the Torquay protocol of accession, of which there may be as many as 36; and
(iv) the modifications of the Geneva and Annecy schedules resulting from negotiations under Article XXVIII.

Therefore, it is suggested that the Contracting Parties, at their Fifth Session, should request each contracting party to prepare a consolidated schedule comprising all its negotiated commitments under the General Agreement, and that these consolidated schedules be submitted to the Sixth Session for approval. The consolidated schedules, together with the schedules of the new acceding governments, could then be reprinted so that by mid-1951 there would be available in one volume, or in one series of volumes, all commitments in respect of customs duties under the General Agreement. It would, of course, be understood that only the original schedules and protocols, etc. would be authentic.