PARTICIPATION IN 1961 TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

Replies to GATT/AIR/187

The Executive Secretary, on 28 March 1960, asked all contracting parties (GATT/AIR/187) to indicate whether they intended to participate in the general round of Tariff Negotiations which will begin in the first days of 1961, and if the answer was in the affirmative, to list the countries with which they would wish to negotiate.

For the convenience of governments, the first replies which have been received are given hereunder insofar as they relate to the general round of negotiations. Further replies are expected shortly and will be distributed without delay.

**Czechoslovakia**

CzechoSlovakia has the intention to participate in the Tariff Negotiations and to negotiate with newly acceding countries, namely with Cambodia and Tunisia.

**Denmark**

The Danish Government intend to take part in these negotiations. At this stage the Danish Government, however, not in a position to indicate the countries with which negotiations presumably are to be initiated.

**Finland**

Finland has already exchanged lists of requests with the United States. The scope of the negotiations with other countries will to a great extent depend on the result of the first round negotiations with the EEC.

**India**

The Government of India intend to take part in the Tariff Conference beginning in January 1961 for negotiating fresh concessions. Steps are being taken to forward to the United States Government a list of products in respect of which the Indian Government wish to negotiate concessions in the United States Customs Tariff. The Government of India are also considering the possibility of negotiations between India and other countries during the Conference.

**Israel**

Israel intends to participate in these negotiations. In preparation for the Conference Israel has already submitted preliminary lists of products on which it will seek concessions from the United States. In view of the large volume of its trade with the Member countries of the European Economic Community, it will also
take part in the negotiations with the EEC. The Government of Israel are not, however, at this stage, in a position to indicate any other country with which they would expect to negotiate. They are at present engaged in an overall appraisal of the impact of the tariffs of the contracting parties on Israel's trade.

United States

On the basis of information now available, the United States Government expect to enter into general tariff negotiations in 1960-61 with the EEC Commission and the following countries: Austria, Australia, Chile, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Dominican Republic, Haiti, India, Israel, Switzerland, Japan, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Spain, United Kingdom, Peru, Uruguay and Finland. No publicity should, however, be given to the foregoing list pending issuance of the public notice in the United States, which is expected to take place during the first half of May.