COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN CIVIL AIRCRAFT

Report (1993) to the CONTRACTING PARTIES

1. This report is submitted under Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft. It sets out the activities of the Committee since October 1992.

2. As at 9 November 1993 there were twenty-two signatories to the Agreement: Austria, Canada, the EEC, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece (subject to ratification), Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Japan, Norway, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. The following contracting parties have observer status in the Committee: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cameroon, Czech Republic, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Israel, Malta, Mauritius, Nigeria, Poland, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Turkey. In addition, Chinese Taipei and the Russian Federation have observer status in the Committee. The IMF and UNCTAD are also observers.

3. The Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft held two meetings in the period under review: an informal meeting on 22 October 1993 and a formal meeting on 9 November 1993.

4. At the informal meeting on 22 October 1993, the Committee discussed a response, to be made by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee, regarding two questions put by the Chairman of the Informal Group on Institutional Issues. These questions related to the inclusion of the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft in Annex 4 of the Agreement Establishing the Multilateral Trade Organization -- should such an Agreement be concluded -- and whether the MTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes would apply to disputes arising under the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft.

5. At the 9 November 1993 meeting, the Committee agreed to grant observer status to Chinese Taipei, and the Chairman made a report on the work of the Sub-Committee for the period since its inception in October 1992. The Chairman made announcements under "Other Business" with regard to the following two matters: (1) the January 1992 amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System and the corresponding adjustments to the Harmonized System nomenclature as this relates to the Annex (on product coverage) to the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft; and (2) the Committee's informal response to the Chairman of the Informal Group on Institutional Issues regarding the inclusion of the existing, or a revised, Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft in Annex 4 of the Agreement Establishing the Multilateral Trade Organization -- should such an Agreement be concluded -- and whether the MTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes would apply to disputes arising under the existing, or a revised, Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft.
6. As at 9 November 1993 there were 31 members of the Sub-Committee: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, EEC, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, the People’s Republic of China, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States. The Sub-Committee reports regularly to the members of the Committee. In the period under review, it held seven meetings: in October and December 1992, and in February, April, May, July and September 1993, at which it discussed proposals for a revised Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft. The notes on the Sub-Committee’s meetings are contained in AIR/69 to 75.

7. The minutes of the Committee’s meetings are contained in documents AIR/M/1 to 34 and are available to contracting parties to the GATT.