REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT

Communication from the Delegation of Pakistan

The following letter, dated 2 December, has been received by the Executive Secretary:

"Generally no country maintains tariff barriers on the import of raw materials. During Tariff Negotiations at Annecy and Torquay all that could be asked in respect of primary commodities was that their already existing free entry should be bound. In return for this, tariff concessions on finished products had to be given to the industrialized countries.

"For the above reason and because the under-developed countries depend almost entirely on the export of raw materials for their earnings of foreign exchange it is proposed that CONTRACTING PARTIES give consideration to the following suggestions:

"I. Provision should be made in the revised Agreement under which CONTRACTING PARTIES agree to:

(a) refrain from taking any action on a national basis which is likely to result in a decline in the off-take of such commodities from the country of a particular contracting party.

(b) inform the Secretariat within 30 days of any such measures taken for unavoidable reasons,

"II. Any under-developed country affected by such measures or by a decline over a period of six months in the normal off-take of such commodities may ask for consultations with the contracting party or contracting parties in whose territory such measures have been instituted or a decline as stated above has taken place. These consultations shall be carried out in the same way for the CONTRACTING PARTIES as is done in the case of the imposition of import restrictions for balance-of-payment reasons.

"The Pakistan delegation requests that this note be circulated to all contracting parties and referred to the appropriate working party for consideration."