CONTRACTING PARTIES
Twelfth Session

DRAFT STATEMENT ON THE DISCUSSION OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
TREATY TO BE INCORPORATED IN THE PRESS RELEASE ON THE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

During the Ministerial meetings which have taken place at the Twelfth
Session, contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade,
including the Six Governments which have signed the Rome Treaty for the
establishment of a European Economic Community, have given preliminary
consideration to the relationship of the Treaty of Rome to the General Agreement
on Tariffs and Trade. The General Agreement recognizes the desirability of
increasing freedom of trade by the adoption of agreements for closer integration
between the economies of the countries parties to such agreements without raising
barriers to trade with other contracting parties.

During the preliminary consideration it was recognized that the creation of
the European Economic Community would give rise to new and important relationships
and problems in the economic and trade field. In order to further the common
objective for the strengthening of trade relations between the European Economic
Community and the parties to the General Agreement the CONTRACTING PARTIES have
confirmed the desirability of establishing effective and continuing co-operation
between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Community.

The statements made during the Ministerial meetings have shown the importance
which all contracting parties attach to the successful operation of the European
Economic Community in harmony with the objectives of the General Agreement on
Tariffs and Trade.

A number of representatives of contracting parties expressed concern over
the relationship between certain provisions of the Rome Treaty and the General
Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and over trade and economic problems which might
arise as the European Economic Community was established. The representatives
of the Six signatories of the Rome Treaty were of the opinion that these
apprehensions were unfounded. It was agreed that these matters would require
further detailed consideration.

It has accordingly been decided at the Ministerial meeting to create a
committee to examine the relevant provisions of the Rome Treaty and the General
Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and to consider the most effective methods of
implementing the inter-related obligations which governments have assumed in the
two instruments.

The committee will consist of representatives of all the contracting parties.

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The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:

A. To examine, in the light of the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the relevant provisions of the Treaty of Rome and the problems likely to arise in their practical application. Such examination would include, inter alia, the arrangements provided for in the Treaty with respect to tariffs, the use of quantitative restrictions, trade in agricultural products and the association of overseas countries and territories with the European Common Market.

B. To recommend, in the light of the conclusions which result from the examination provided for above, such action as may be appropriate and desirable, including a determination of the means for establishing effective and continuing co-operation between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the European Economic Community.

C. To submit a report, or reports, to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, before the close of the Twelfth Session, and such recommendations as may be appropriate with respect to the continuation of the work of the Committee.

The Interim Committee for the European Common Market and Euratom will be associated in the work of the Committee.