The problems of export restrictions and dual-pricing of raw materials are among the points which have been suggested by the Community to be put on the agenda of the Ministerial.

- There are a number of concrete problems which the Community is facing with its trading partners. Examples are:
  (a) dual-pricing in two Contracting Parties in the energy sector;
  (b) the export policy by one Contracting Party on soya and its repercussions for the export of soya cakes;
  (c) export practices of various Contracting Parties on hides and skins, and their relationship to high levels of protection on imported processed products;
  (d) practices which distort competition on the international market for copper raw materials and copper products.

Export restrictions are often applied:
- to guarantee national supply in food and raw materials;
- to encourage local transformation or to realise maximal upgrading of raw materials;
- to retain a certain percentage of production for the domestic market.

The objective might be to have some kind of reference to the trade-distorting effects of such practices included in the political declaration of Ministers; and secondly to propose a study on the economic distortions inherent in practices such as price controls, export charges or restrictions, and to consider how existing GATT provisions apply or might be strengthened to deal with such matters, in particular Article III:1 and Article XVI.