COMMUNICATION FROM COLOMBIA

The following communication has been received from the delegation of Colombia for distribution to the Preparatory Committee.

I take the liberty of communicating the following paragraph concerning the Ministerial meeting of GATT, approved by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 in New York on 7 October:

"The Ministers pointed out that the Ministerial meeting of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the GATT offered an opportunity to concentrate the attention of the international community on the functioning of the multilateral trading system and to improve it for the benefit of all nations. They invited all countries to make use of that meeting to initiate the restructuration of GATT, in order to reverse the negative tendencies which have manifested themselves in that institution. In connection with the upcoming Ministerial meeting, they stated that GATT should not devote itself to new normative tasks in the sectors of services, investment policies and high technology, which not only would be prejudicial to the interests of developing countries in international markets but also would compromise efforts to reform GATT with a view to adapting it more closely to the needs and interests of developing countries.

"The Ministers called upon developing countries to intensify their preparations for the GATT Ministerial meeting, in order to ensure that their problems receive priority attention and appropriate lasting solutions."