Considering that

(1) the Government of Japan on 18 July 1952 made a formal request to accede to the General Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Article XXIII.

(2) a condition precedent to proceeding with this application would be the holding of satisfactory tariff negotiations between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and Japan.

(3) it is not at present possible for arrangements to be made for such negotiations in the near future.

(4) accordingly it is not possible for the CONTRACTING PARTIES to proceed at this time with Japan's application to accede.

(5) at the Seventh Session it had been recognised that Japan should take her rightful place in the community of trading nations.

(6) the Japanese Government being committed by the Peace Treaty of September 1951 to accord to each of the Allied Powers most-favoured-nation treatment on the basis of reciprocity and that in fact Japan has been voluntarily complying with the principles of the General Agreement in its relations with contracting parties whether or not such treatment was reciprocal.

The CONTRACTING PARTIES decide

(a) pending agreement upon arrangements for tariff negotiations with Japan with a view to the accession of that country to the General Agreement under the provisions of Article XXIII, the commercial relations between contracting parties and Japan shall be based upon the provisions of the General Agreement, that is to say that during such period Japan shall be subject to all the obligations and shall receive all the benefits of the General Agreement as if Japan were a contracting party applying the Agreement pursuant to the Protocol of Provisional Application.
(b) Japan shall have the right to participate in Sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and of subsidiary bodies established by the CONTRACTING PARTIES in all respects as if Japan were a contracting party except that where the provisions of the General Agreement require a special majority for any decision or vote, the vote of Japan shall not be counted in the determination of such special voting requirement.

(c) Pending the conclusion of any tariff negotiations which may be arranged with a view to accession of Japan in accordance with Article XXXIII, the Japanese Government shall accord to the commerce of each contracting party treatment no less favourable than that provided for in the Schedule annexed to this Decision.

(d) The obligations assumed by the Japanese Government pursuant to paragraph (c) above shall be identical with and subject to the same conditions as have been accepted by the contracting parties with respect to the concessions embodied in their respective schedules to the General Agreement.

(e) The acceptance of the present provisional arrangement shall not prejudice in any way the judgement of any contracting party on the decision, whether or not, following appropriate tariff negotiations, to agree to the accession of Japan to the General Agreement under Article XXXIII thereof. In particular, concurrence in the present arrangement shall not prejudice the right of any contracting party upon the accession of Japan in accordance with Article XXXIII to invoke the provisions of Article XXXV in accordance with its terms.

(f) This decision and the provisional arrangement embodied therein shall become effective upon the favourable vote of two-thirds of the contracting parties and signature by the Japanese Government. It shall be binding upon all contracting parties recording a favourable vote at the time of its adoption and thereafter for each other contracting party which may subsequently notify the CONTRACTING PARTIES of its desire to accede thereto.