The Committee noted that the absence of broad participation by France in the negotiations was having a limiting effect on the scope of the negotiations of some participants. They took cognizance of the reasons for this abstention which had been presented by the representative for France at the opening meeting of the Conference and subsequently referred to in connexion with the review. But they felt that the problem was of sufficient importance for them to call attention to recommendations that have previously been made concerning European co-operation in the GATT negotiations and decided to reaffirm the appeals previously made by contracting parties to the Government of France and urged that Government to reconsider its decision and to make every effort to increase its participation in the negotiations.