MEMORANDUM

25 November 1957

TO: The Leader of the Delegation of to the Twelfth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

FROM: E. Wyndham White, Executive Secretary.

I would refer to my memorandum of 23 September 1957 with which I enclosed a copy of a letter received from the Polish Representative to the European Office of the United Nations, about the possibility of establishing closer relations between Poland and the signatories to the General Agreement.

I have now had the opportunity to consider the matter further and discuss it informally with the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, and with a number of delegations to the present session which have approached me on the matter, as a result of which I have transmitted the attached communication to the Polish Representative.

Spec/186/57
Sir,

I have the honour to refer again to your letter of 10 September 1957, about the desire of the Polish Government to establish closer relations between Poland and the signatories to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

I have now had an opportunity to consider this matter further, and also to discuss it informally with the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and a number of the delegations to the Twelfth Session.

As you will appreciate, the situation is not without complications since hitherto the CONTRACTING PARTIES have not established any status between that of full contracting party and an observer, as provided for in the Rules of Procedure.

In the light of my consideration of the matter, and of the conversations to which I have referred, I feel, however, that there would be considerable advantage in our pursuing this matter in somewhat greater detail, in order to ascertain the character and extent of the relationship which might in due course be established between Poland and the CONTRACTING PARTIES. I would therefore hope that it would be possible for us to arrange for further conversations on this matter, and in the light of these conversations I would continue my informal consultations with contracting parties in the hope that in this way we could arrive at some definite conclusion at the next session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Meanwhile, and as a first step in the direction which you have in mind, I am in a position to assure you that if the Polish Government wish its representatives accredited as observers to the sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to contribute to the discussions, there would be no obstacles in the way of arranging this.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

E. Wyndham White,
Executive Secretary.

Mr. Adam Moller-Conrad,
Minister Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of the Polish Peoples Republic to the European Office of the United Nations,
4, rue Munier-Romilly,
Geneva.