Point VII - Reporting Procedures

The United Arab Republic agrees to the proposed system of reporting as stated in the recommendation.

Point VIII - of the Action Programme

The developing countries felt, after discussing the seven previous points of the programme of action that the gap between the needs of less-developed countries and their current earnings from export was so large that even the adoption of the seven points outlined in their programme might not meet their demands. For this reason point VIII of the programme, in which they have great hopes, has been added to as one of the points under the programme covered by item I of the agenda.

The UAR supports point VIII. However, in view of the suggestions placed before the Committee designed to improve the conditions of access for the exports of less-developed countries, the UAR would suggest redrafting of point VIII as follows:

"Contracting parties should also give urgent consideration to the adoption of other appropriate measures which would facilitate the efforts of less-developed countries to diversify their economies, strengthen their export capacity, and increase their earnings from overseas sales. One of the appropriate measures in this connexion would be the according of the preferential treatment to the semi-manufactured and manufactured goods exported by the less-developed countries.

"For this purpose a working group should be formed to study the arrangements necessary for the implementation of this recommendation."
Item I, section D of the agenda: Other action

It has been suggested that the work of Committee III should be extended, in collaboration with other interested agencies, particularly the lending agencies, through the adoption of concerted and systematic studies of trade and aid relationships. In this connexion the importance should be stressed of the question of financing (the trade of the developing countries as a means of their development) on easy terms and not on a conventional basis. The GATT should thus give careful attention to the problem of financing, and the UAR would suggest the following recommendation to be submitted for the consideration of Ministers:

"The problem of financing the gap between the export proceeds and import requirements of the developing countries should be given careful consideration. In order to extend the activities of the GATT to embrace the financing aspect, and as a practical measure to achieve this end, a working group should be formed to study the ways and means for enabling the less-developed countries to obtain from the industrialized contracting parties loans on soft terms, and thus enable the GATT to realize its objectives of fostering trade between the contracting parties."