1. The Ministers during their meeting from 16 to 21 May 1963, discussed the question of measures for the expansion of trade of developing countries as a means of furthering their economic development. The Ministers had before them the Report of Committee III and of the Special Group on Trade in Tropical Products.

2. The Ministers reached agreement on the following conclusions:

A. Trade in products other than tropical products

With respect to these products the Ministers considered the following Programme of Action, sponsored by twenty-one developing GATT countries.

(The points of the Programme of Action as in Spec(63)109/Rev.1).

3. The Ministers of all industrialized countries, with the exception of the Ministers of the member States of the European Economic Community, agreed to the above Programme of Action, subject to the observations and qualifications set out in paragraph 4. (The position of the Ministers of the European Economic Community and of the States associated with the Community is contained in paragraphs to .)

4. It was agreed that in the first instance the above Programme of Action relates to the products identified by Committee III, it being understood that the Programme of Action might subsequently be extended to an enlarged list of products to be agreed upon. It was also recognized that acceptance of the Programme was without prejudice to the rights and obligations of contracting parties under the provisions of the GATT, under arrangements negotiated within the framework of the GATT or covered by international commodity arrangements. Further, it should be understood that, where
action under the Programme would affect the interests of third countries, as under preferential arrangements, countries granting such preferences would need to take into account the interests of the trade partners concerned. As regards tariffs on primary products, Ministers of industrialized countries indicated that their governments would work towards the elimination or, where this was not possible, at least towards the substantial reduction of tariffs on these products. As regards tariffs on semi-processed and processed products of substantial interest to the developing countries, Ministers indicated that their governments would work towards a substantial reduction of the tariffs on these products. Action in connexion with the reduction of tariffs on primary, semi-processed and processed products from less-developed countries would be taken within the framework of the GATT trade negotiations, and, while not precluding action in advance of the trade negotiations, these Ministers proposed to ensure, as far as possible, that these products would be included in their offer lists in the negotiations and not be excepted therefrom.

Replace section under heading "Specific qualifications put forward by individual contracting parties" by:

5. Ministers of industrial countries stated that they would use their best endeavours to maintain the standstill provision. However, if, in practice, a government felt that it had to adopt measures which would have the effect of departing from the standstill, it would afford adequate opportunity for consultations with the exporting countries mainly interested in the product concerned. A few Ministers also indicated that while it was their intention to remove quantitative restrictions maintained inconsistently with the GATT as soon as possible, they could not give an undertaking to meet the target date of 31 December 1965 in respect of a few products.

(Then follows the remainder of the text of Section A and Section C of Spec(63)109/Rev.1).