Group on Meat

LIST OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Products included in discussion

The discussion would centre on meats of cattle and sheep, it being understood that other types of meat might be brought into consideration at a later stage.

2. Agricultural policies

The discussion should cover the whole range of agricultural policies in importing and exporting countries, in particular production policies including internal measures and measures at the frontier, where appropriate.

Internal measures

The discussion should include questions of

- maintaining a balance between domestic production and domestic consumption in importing countries,
- restraint on price and/or income support, so as not to unduly encourage domestic production nor discourage increases in consumption,
- disparities of consumption levels in different countries.

Measures at the frontier

The discussion should include questions of

- negotiability of variable levies, quantitative restrictions and other import devices,
- veterinary restrictions.

3. International trade

The discussion should include questions of international prices and the creation of acceptable conditions of access.
International prices

The discussion should include questions of

- stabilization of international prices through measures aiming at a coordinated balance between world supplies and demand, or through measures directly affecting international prices, such as minimum prices, price ranges, etc.,

- a gradual elimination of export subsidies.

Access

The discussion should include questions of

- maintaining a balance between domestic consumption and imports from traditional exporting countries,

- opportunities for exporting countries to compete for participation in increases in demand,

- market sharing arrangements, including provisions for coordinated access for traditional suppliers and participation of new suppliers,

- bilateral arrangements with State-trading countries.

4. Other matters for discussion

- procedures for confrontation on production, import and export policies,

- the possibility of concluding local agreements between the States principally concerned with a particular market,

- the necessity for interim arrangements.