LETTER OF CONDOLENCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

At the request of the Council of Representatives at its meeting on 27 May, the Executive Secretary addressed the following communication to the Permanent Delegate of India to the GATT:

"On behalf of the organization of which I have the honour to be the Executive Secretary, I wish to convey to you, and through you to the Government of India, the most profound and sincere sympathy following the tragic death of your most distinguished Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru.

"Representatives of the Council at their meeting yesterday referred in the highest terms to the work of Mr. Nehru both as an outstanding world statesman and as the very respected leader of the Indian nation. It was the unanimous wish of the Council that I should make known to you the depth of their sympathy and the sense of loss which they share with the people of India at this time."

The following replies have been received:

- from the Embassy of India in Brussels:

"The Ambassador of India and the staff of the Embassy are deeply grateful to you for the kind message of sympathy you sent on the passing away of India's foremost leader and beloved Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. The Government and people of India are touched by your message and take comfort in the thought that their grief is shared by so many everywhere in the world."

- from Mr. K.B. Lall:

"I saw your letter of 28 May on return to Brussels. I am taking the earliest opportunity to thank you and the representatives of the Council for your expression of deep sympathy in the hour of our national grief.

"We owe to our departed leader our sense of values, our sense of purpose, and also the friendship, sympathy and support which have been extended to us by you, by the GATT and by the Council. We also owe to him the democratic and dignified manner in which the nation responded to the tragedy of a great loss. The nation is resolved to persevere in the course of political and economic policies so far pursued by us under the late Mr. Nehru's leadership. We shall continue to depend upon the support of yourself and the Council."