1. The Sub-Committee noted that the reference to non-tariff barriers in the Ministerial Resolution of 23 May 1963 was very general in nature, and would permit any form of non-tariff barrier to be made the subject of negotiation. No distinction was made in this connexion between those barriers which were compatible, and those which were inconsistent, with the GATT, though it would, of course, be understood that bringing barriers inconsistent with the GATT within the scope of the trade negotiations would not imply any departure from the position that these barriers were so inconsistent and ought to be removed.

2. The Sub-Committee noted that, while non-tariff barriers created problems for the trade of all countries, the problems they created for less-developed countries were especially great in certain areas. The Sub-Committee wished to draw the attention of the Trade Negotiations Committee to the importance of this issue for the less-developed countries.

3. The initial problem was to identify the barriers and agree on a procedure for dealing with them. In this connexion the Sub-Committee noted that the Trade Negotiations Committee had distinguished between those barriers which would require the multilateral negotiation of new rules or codes of conduct and those which could be left in the first instance at any rate, to bilateral discussion or discussion between groups of countries, and that it had instructed the Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers to identify before 4 May which were the products which fell into the first group. Since developed and less-developed countries were likely to be interested in the various barriers concerned, the Sub-Committee felt that this process of identification was best left to the Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers.
4. The Sub-Committee noted that as far as the interests of less-developed countries were concerned, a considerable amount of relevant material had already been collected and analyzed by Committee III and the Action Committee. The Sub-Committee agreed to leave open for the time being the question of which body should carry further the process of identifying the barriers of particular importance to less-developed countries in the context of the trade negotiations. It agreed, however, that it had in any case a continuing role to play in following the work done by other bodies in this field, and where necessary, drawing up and submitting recommendations both on the identification of barriers and the procedure to be followed in their negotiation.

**The question of reciprocity and the contribution the less-developed countries can make to the negotiations**

5. The Sub-Committee recalled that one of the basic principles to which Ministers had subscribed at their meeting of May 1963 was that in the trade negotiations every effort shall be made to reduce barriers to exports of the less-developed countries, but that developed countries cannot expect to receive reciprocity from the less-developed countries.

6. The Sub-Committee noted that the contribution the less-developed countries could make to the overall objectives of trade liberalization had to be seen against this background. It agreed that the contribution which should be made by less-developed countries should be considered in the light of the development and trade needs of the country in question and of other less-developed countries.

7. The Committee noted a number of specific suggestions which had been made in this regard. It felt, however, that the various elements which would be required to establish the basis for the contribution of less-developed countries to the trade negotiations were not present at this stage and that further discussion on this question should therefore be deferred to a later date.