1. The most recent Analytical Index to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was published in 1970 (Third Revision - March 1970, Sales No. GATT, 1970-1). It is now being updated and will be available for sale to the public as of early 1986. It will be published in loose-leaf format so as to facilitate its regular updating and the correction of any deficiencies in the text.

2. Pending the completion of the new Index, the part concerning Articles I to XXIII is furnished herewith in English only to contracting parties for information and for comments. The remaining part will be circulated to contracting parties before 1 November 1985. Translations into French and Spanish are under preparation. Given the size of this document, only a limited number of copies is being printed and two copies only are being distributed to each delegation.

3. The primary purpose of the Analytical Index is to assist in understanding the drafting, interpretation and application of the General Agreement. For this reason, the method of the past editions has been followed, i.e. to include references to certain GATT documents, the circulation of which remains restricted for the time being, as well as references to some interpretations and practices by GATT contracting parties which are not necessarily generally agreed. Further explanations in this respect are given in the Introduction at page 14.

4. Suggestions for improvements (amendments, additions or deletions) should be addressed to the Office of Legal Affairs, GATT Secretariat.