SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva on Wednesday, 22 November 1967, at 3.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. K.B. LALL (India)

Subject discussed: Review of the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES through the last two decades and consideration of future programme.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the Ministers and all those who had found it possible to be present in Geneva to participate in the last three days of the twenty-fourth session. Work on many important items of the session agenda had been completed. It would now be possible to concentrate attention on the special item which was added to the agenda for discussion on the last three days. In preparation for this discussion the CONTRACTING PARTIES had reviewed, under items 3 and 4 of the agenda, the progress achieved under the Programme for Expansion of Trade, which had been initiated by Ministers in 1958, and by the Committee on Trade and Development since its appointment in 1964. This review had ranged over the full field of GATT activities but, in particular, attention had been directed to the reduction of tariffs, the obstacles to trade in agricultural products and the obstacles to trade of developing countries. At the end of these three days it was hoped that agreement could be reached on a summary of conclusions based on this review.

Statements were made by the following representatives and the full texts have been distributed in the documents indicated:

H.E. Mr. H. Schaffner, Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of Public Economy (Switzerland) - W.24/34

Mr. Rolf Lahr, Secretary of State (Federal Republic of Germany, Spokesman for the Member States of the European Communities) - W.24/35

The Hon. R.Y. Winters, Minister of Trade and Commerce (Canada) - W.24/36

H.E. Mr. Hans Tabor, Minister for Foreign Trade (Denmark) - W.24/37
H.E. Mr. L. de Block, Minister of Economic Affairs (Netherlands)  - W.24/38

H.E. Dr. Don José Antonio Encinas del Pando, Ambassador of Peru  - W.24/58

H.E. Mr. T. Swaminathan, Ambassador for Economic Affairs in Europe (India, on behalf of the Minister of Commerce)  - W.24/39

The meeting closed at 6 p.m.