Communication from Presidents of Chambers of Commerce

The following telegram has been received by the Director-General.

Presidents Chambers of Commerce Amsterdam, Antwerp, Bremen, Ghent, Hamburg and Rotterdam ask you to bring to notice of negotiating parties that these Chambers too attach utmost importance to success in Kennedy Round negotiations. They want to insist at this last moment that all negotiating parties show their goodwill to carry these negotiations to a successful conclusion in due time. Although they do not underestimate the difficulties that still have to be solved, for example in the non-tariff sector, they are convinced that these difficulties can be overcome. It is their conviction that a failure of the negotiations will have very serious consequences for the necessary expansion of world trade and will lead to a disintegration of the world into several protectionistic blocs. Trade between industrial and developing countries would moreover be hampered seriously.