PROCEDURE DISCUSSED IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
THE SWISS AUTHORITIES AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1. In the event that the CONTRACTING PARTIES agree to the request of the Swiss Government to enter into negotiations with a view to eventual accession pursuant to Article XXXIII, the tariff negotiations should be undertaken at some mutually convenient date in 1957.

2. The tariff negotiations would be based upon the new tariff when it has been approved by the Swiss Government and by the competent committees of the legislature.

3. Following the successful completion of tariff negotiations, and pending the settlement of other questions which would require to be resolved before Switzerland's definitive accession under Article XXXIII, an arrangement would be made for provisional association with the GATT.

4. This arrangement would follow a similar pattern to the provisional arrangement with Japan; in other words, it would consist of a decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, taken by a two-thirds majority, along the lines of the Decision of 23 October 1953 (BISD, Second Supplement, page 30), and secondly, there would be a declaration to be signed by Switzerland and those contracting parties which wish to do so. The declaration would provide for the entry into force of the tariff concessions and for the trade between the signatories and Switzerland to be governed by the terms of the declaration. These terms would include all the provisions of the General Agreement subject to a reservation on the part of Switzerland regarding the measures at present applied under the Swiss Agricultural Law and regarding Article XV, and such other consequential reservations as the other signatories felt they would wish to make in the light of the Swiss reservation.

5. The arrangement would be terminable upon the accession of Switzerland under the provisions of Article XXXIII and might also contain a time limit subject to extension.

6. During this period of provisional accession there would be discussions between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and Switzerland with a view to resolving the difficulties standing in the way of definitive accession.