The following statement was made by the representative of India, and supported by a number of other delegations, at the meeting of 3 April 1979.

With regard to point 5 of document MTN/FR/W/20/Rev.2, it would be our understanding that when the CONTRACTING PARTIES address themselves to the task of re-assessing the GATT provisions relating to export restrictions and charges, two of the guiding principles would be the sovereignty of States over their natural resources and the need for developing countries to utilize their resources for their development in the most optimal manner as considered appropriate by them, including processing of their raw materials, setting up industries to diversify their economies and ensuring supplies to domestic industries.