The delegation of Cuba proposes the following alternative amendments to Article 17.

Amend Article 17 by the insertion in paragraph 1 (a) of a new sub-paragraph (v), as follows:

"(v) When any agreement reached affects preferences provided for in any prior commitment, in order to implement such agreement, the exchange in the preference would have either to be agreed between the parties to the prior commitment, or if they could not agree, the party wishing to make the change, in order to proceed, would have to terminate the prior commitment in accordance with its terms."

Alternatively, it is proposed that Article 17 be amended by, the insertion in paragraph 1(a) of the following new sub-paragraph (v):

"(v) Prior international commitments shall not be permitted to stand in the way of negotiations with respect to tariff preferences, it being understood that action resulting from such negotiations shall not require the modification or termination of existing international obligations except by agreement between the contracting parties, or failing that by termination of such obligations in accordance with their terms."