The Tariff Negotiations Working Party has considered the following note submitted by the Australian Delegation, and recommends acceptance of the proposed amendment to paragraph 6(a) of Article II of the General Agreement (E/PC/T/214, Add. 1, Rev. 1.) Unless any objection is lodged with the Secretariat before noon on October 16, this amendment will be taken as adopted.

Note by Australian Delegation

In order that the effectiveness of a margin of preference expressed in specific duties or charges which is bound by the Agreement may be maintained in the event of an adjustment of such specific duties or charges being authorised in terms of paragraph 6 of Article II, it is considered advisable that specific reference to such margins of preference should be made in Article II. It is accordingly proposed that the words "and margins of preference in specific duties and charges maintained by such contracting parties" should be inserted after the word "Fund" in the third line of paragraph 6(a) and the words "and margin of preference" be added after the word "charges" in the ninth line of the paragraph.

Paragraph 6(a) would then read as follows:

"6(a) The specific duties and charges included in the Schedules relating to contracting parties members of the International Monetary Fund, and margins of preference in specific duties and charges maintained by such contracting parties, are expressed in the appropriate currency at the par value accepted or provisionally..."
recognised by the Fund at the date of this Agreement. Accordingly, in case this par value is reduced consistently with the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund by more than twenty per centum, such specific duties and charges and margins of preference may be adjusted to take account of such reduction; provided that the contracting parties acting jointly as provided for in Article XXV concur that such adjustments will not impair the value of the concessions provided for in the appropriate Schedule or elsewhere in this Agreement, due account being taken of all factors which may influence the need for, or urgency of, such adjustments.