NEGOTIATING GROUP ON NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED PRODUCTS

Meeting of 8-10 February 1988

Note by the Secretariat

1. The Group, chaired by Mr. L. Duthie (Australia), met on 8 and 10 February 1988.

2. The Group adopted the agenda proposed in the convening airgram (GATT/AIR/2538).

3. The Group had before it notes by the secretariat on the preceding meetings (documents: MTN.GNG/NG3/1-5 and .../5/Add.1), written submissions by delegations (documents in the MTN.GNG/NG3/W/- series), and the revised version of the secretariat's Summary of Statements and Proposals made Concerning Negotiations on Natural Resource-Based Products (MTN.GNG/NG3/W/8/Rev.1).

4. The Group heard an additional proposal dealing with a number of aspects of negotiations on natural resource-based products presented by the EEC. The text of that proposal has been circulated in document MTN.GNG/NG3/W/11.

5. Both in its formal meetings, and at an informal meeting, the Group concentrated its attention on the following points:

   (i) what products should be regarded as natural resource-based products for the purpose of the Uruguay Round?

   (ii) what measures should be the subject of negotiations?

   (iii) where, and on the basis of what modalities and techniques, should the measures be negotiated?

6. On the basis of the discussions held, the Chairman, in his summing up, invited delegations to provide, if they so wished, additional information relating to appropriate proposed measures for negotiations on products within NG3. This would be without prejudice to the positions of delegations on any issues. Such information should be provided and circulated no later than 30 April 1988. He also proposed to arrange consultations as to what additional information should be provided by the secretariat for the use of the Group. In concluding, he proposed that the next meeting of the Group be held during the week commencing 6 June 1988.