REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE 
TO THE 23 JULY 1990 MEETING OF THE GNG

1. At its meeting on 12, 13, 19, 20 and 23 July 1990 the Negotiating Group on Agriculture considered the draft text presented by the Chairman (annexed hereto as MTN.GNG/NG5/W/170) setting out a framework for the agricultural negotiations for submission to the 23 July 1990 meetings of the GNG and the TNC (GNG/22 and TNC/14 refer).

2. Comments have been made by several participants regarding the Chairman's text which understandably reflect the positions and proposals submitted by participants. The Group however agreed that this text should be used as a means to intensify the negotiations. Accordingly it was agreed that substantive negotiations will be initiated in the month of August. Country lists as specified in paragraphs 6, 12 and 20 of the Chairman's text will be submitted as soon as possible, but in no case later than 1 October. The Group also stated its understanding that all agricultural products are within the scope of the negotiations.

3. Special and differential treatment for developing countries, the situation of net food-importing developing countries and non-trade concerns such as food security shall be included in line with the Mid-Term Review Agreement, and other concerns relevant to the reform process shall be accommodated to the maximum extent possible.

4. Participants further agree that substantive work aimed at strengthening GATT rules and disciplines and making them more operationally effective should get under way at the next meeting of the Negotiating Group, to be held on 27-29 August 1990.

5. A format for the submission of country lists will be circulated by the secretariat at an early date.

6. Statements made by participants in the course of the meeting will be circulated as documents of the Group.

7. My concluding remarks will be circulated as document NG5/24.