NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN ON THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE

1. At its meeting on 27, 28 and 30 August 1990 the Negotiating Group on Agriculture initiated work on strengthened and more operationally effective GATT rules and disciplines in line with paragraph 4 of the Report by the Chairman to the July GNG and on the basis, inter alia, of a secretariat note on special agricultural safeguard provisions and of working papers or submissions by Thailand, the European Community, Japan, Switzerland (to be issued as documents MTN.GNG/NG5/W/199 to 202) and of an informal working paper by the United States. The Group also considered the July TNC summing-up (MTN.TNC/15) regarding the submission of offers by 15 October 1990.

2. It was agreed that the main points on the agenda for the next meeting of the Group, which is to get under way in the week beginning 1 October 1990, will include:

   - product coverage
   - reduction targets
   - formula and/or request and offer procedures for reduction of tariffs and tariff equivalents
   - minimum access formula
   - internal measures not subject to reduction (green box)
   - continuation and organization of work on rules and disciplines, including special agricultural safeguard provisions
   - special and differential treatment
   - ways to take account of the possible negative effects of the reform process on net food-importing developing countries
   - sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

   Note was taken of suggestions made regarding annotations to the agenda.

3. Country lists as specified in paragraphs 6, 12 and 20 of the Chairman's draft text should be submitted as far in advance as possible of the October meeting and in sufficient copies to enable rapid distribution to other participants.

4. The Group took note of the compliance reports submitted pursuant to paragraph 16 of the Mid-Term Review Decision by Austria, Australia and Japan and invited other developed participants to submit their reports as soon as practicable.

5. A brief summary of the main points raised in the course of the present meeting will be prepared by the secretariat.