The following communication, dated 2 April 1987, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Mexico with the request that it be circulated to the members of the Group.

NON-EXHAUSTIVE PRESENTATION OF ELEMENTS WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE NEGOTIATING GROUP ON DISPUTE SETTLEMENT WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING ISSUES ON WHICH NEGOTIATIONS ARE APPROPRIATE

1. How could the procedures be speeded up for:
   - establishment of panels;
   - designation of the Chairman and members of panels;
   - elaboration of the terms of reference of panels?

2. Is it feasible to set a uniform maximum period for consideration of each case by panels?

3. Would it be appropriate to authorize panels to suggest conciliation proposals even if not necessarily based on provisions of the General Agreement?

4. How could one avoid situations where:
   - panel reports cannot be adopted because of opposition from the contracting party whose measure gave rise to the dispute;
   - recommendations by the CONTRACTING PARTIES are not implemented?

5. What improvements could be made to the Decision adopted on 5 April 1966 so that developing contracting parties can have recourse more frequently to the good offices of the Director-General in the event of a dispute with a developed contracting party?

6. It would appear that some contracting parties have entered into bilateral agreements to apply the GATT dispute settlement mechanism to any disputes or differences arising between them. Would it be possible to know the content of such bilateral agreements and, where appropriate, examine the desirability of extending them to all contracting parties?