COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SURVEILLANCE BODY
TO THE TNC MEETING IN JULY 1991

The Surveillance Body held its first meeting since Brussels on 1 July this year. The record of this meeting is contained in document MTN.SB/16.

As the record shows, there have been very few new developments in relation to the standstill and rollback commitments during the past seven months. One new notification on standstill was made by a number of Latin American and Caribbean countries, concerning an increase in Italy’s selective internal taxes on coffee, cocoa and their products (MTN.SB/SN/22/Rev.2). A discussion of this measure was the main point on the agenda at the last meeting of the Body.

As regards rollback, there have been notifications on autonomous trade liberalization measures by one participating country (Colombia), but no further communications on the implementation of the rollback commitment. At the recent meeting of the Surveillance Body, one participating country (New Zealand) indicated its intention to pursue, in future meetings of the Body, its proposal to expedite rollback implementation on measures which have been found GATT-inconsistent by Panels. The Ministerial TNC meeting in December had, in document MTN.SB/14, a comprehensive report on the status of proposals for rollback action.

The Surveillance Body proposes to hold its next meeting in October of this year.