1. The Trade Negotiations Committee held its seventeenth meeting at official level, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Dunkel.

2. The Chairman recalled that the Committee had put in place a formal structure for conducting the negotiations in the final phase when it last met on 25 April 1991. The details of the negotiating groups established and the persons nominated as Chairmen to moderate the task of pushing the work forward in all the outstanding areas of the negotiations were contained in document MTN.TNC/20.

3. The Chairman said that in the weeks that followed, there had been important developments which could only further strengthen the resolve of participating governments to accelerate the negotiating process and conclude the Round expeditiously. The negotiations should, therefore, move forward as quickly and as constructively as possible. The months of June and July would be an important testing period and the negotiations, therefore, would have to proceed in a clear and focused manner concentrating on the questions where negotiating breakthroughs had to be achieved. Depending upon the progress during this period, participants would be better able to judge their capacity to conclude the Round successfully by the end of 1991 -- a target which more and more governments were beginning to see as feasible and desirable for different reasons.

4. It was in this context that he had held consultations with the persons whom this Committee had entrusted with the task of conducting work under the new negotiating structure. These consultations had dealt with organizational matters and, in particular, the establishment of a draft initial schedule of meetings which had been circulated as an annex to the airgram GATT/AIR/3188. The draft schedule provided for meetings of all groups during the period June-July 1991. No date had been set for the Group "Institutions" which remained on call. The Surveillance Body would hold a meeting on 1 July. It would be up to each chairman and each negotiating group to distribute time between informal and formal sessions, and to organize their work including the convening of further meetings. In scheduling the first series of meetings, the rule of not having more than two groups meet at the same time had been kept in mind. This was an important point in the context of the manpower and other constraints under which some small delegations had to operate.

5. The Chairman said that when the first series of meetings in June and July were completed, it would be desirable for the Committee to review progress and devise a negotiating strategy for the second half of 1991.
was for this reason that the draft initial schedule provided for a meeting of the Committee in the last week of July.

6. The Chairman asked the Committee to agree to the proposed initial schedule of meetings so that substantive negotiations could begin straightaway.

7. The representative of Yugoslavia said that he had some difficulties with the meeting of the GNS scheduled for 15-19 July and proposed that it be held during the week beginning 22 July. The representative of Pakistan expressed a strong preference for the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing to meet in the week of 1 July.

8. The proposals by Yugoslavia and Pakistan were supported by a number of delegations. Some preferred to maintain maximum flexibility and leave matters to further consultation. Several participants stressed that if too many meetings, including informal consultations, were held at the same time, the participation of small delegations might be adversely affected.

9. In respect of the meeting date for the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing, the Chairman suggested replacing the word "tentatively" with "either the week of 24 June or 1 July". He further said that he had noted the preference of delegations for the later alternative and that he would be conducting consultations to determine the final date. As for the GNS, he suggested that its Chairman do the same. He further suggested that the proposed calendar be called an "Indicative schedule of meetings", and observed that a degree of flexibility would have to be provided to the Chairmen of the Negotiating Groups. He assured the meeting that while it might not always be possible to avoid two or three meetings at the same time, he would exert maximum effort to ensure transparency.

10. The Committee took note of the Chairman’s comments and agreed to his proposed initial schedule of meetings with the changes proposed (para.3).

11. The "Indicative schedule of meetings" is at Annex I.

12. The Chairman referred to the question of arrangements for the attendance of international organizations at meetings dealing with different negotiating subjects and said that the re-allocation of negotiating subjects in some of the new groups, for instance, in "Market Access", "Rule Making and TRIMs" and "Institutions", would mean that international organizations might either be invited to only parts of the formal meetings of the relevant negotiating groups dealing with areas of specific concern to them, or to the entire proceedings of these meetings. For entirely practical reasons, the latter course of action was preferable. Annex II shows how attendance of international organizations would appear in individual negotiating groups as a result of the new structure in keeping with the basis of their participation in the former negotiating groups NG1-14.

13. The Committee agreed to the Chairman’s suggestion concerning the attendance of international organizations at meetings of the negotiations.
## ANNEX I

### MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

### NEGOTIATING GROUPS

### INDICATIVE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

**June - July 1991**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>NEGOTIATING GROUPS</th>
<th>CHAIRMAN/Liaison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12 June</td>
<td>Rule Making and TRIMS</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. George Naciel, assisted by Mr. Rudi Ramsauer Liaisons: Mr. D. Hartridge and Mr. J. Woznowski</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 10 June</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Mr. Arthur Dunkel Liaison: Mr. F. Wolter</td>
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<td>and part of the week of 17 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-14 June</td>
<td>Market Access</td>
<td>Mr. Germain Denis Liaison: Mr. H. Opelz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-28 June</td>
<td>Services</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. Felipe Jaramillo assisted by H.E. Mr. David Hawes Liaison: Mr. G. Sampson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-28 June</td>
<td>TRIPS</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. Lars Anell Liaison: Mr. D. Hartridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting will be held</td>
<td>Textiles and Clothing</td>
<td>Mr. Arthur Dunkel Liaison: Mr. J.-E. Sorensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>either in the week of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 June or the week of 1 July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ON CALL</td>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. Julio Lacarte-Muró Liaison: Mr. A. Linden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 15 July</td>
<td>Market Access</td>
<td>Mr. Germain Denis Liaison: Mr. H. Opelz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19 July or 22-26 July</td>
<td>Services</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. Felipe Jaramillo assisted by H.E. David Hawes Liaison: Mr. G. Sampson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-26 July</td>
<td>Rule Making and TRIMS</td>
<td>H.E. Mr. George Naciel, assisted by Mr. Rudi Ramsauer Liaisons: Mr. D. Hartridge and Mr. J. Woznowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of 29 July</td>
<td>Trade Negotiations Committee</td>
<td>Mr. Arthur Dunkel Liaison: Mr. C. Mercier</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX II

ATTENDANCE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND

(MTN.TNC/3, Annex pages 5 and 6, and MTN.TNC/4, page 5)

Agriculture
(ex NG 5)
FAO

Institutions
(ex NG 13 and 14)
IBRD, IMF, UNCTAD

Market Access
(ex NG 1, 2, 3 and 6)
CCC, FAO, IBRD, IMF, UNCTAD

Rule Making and TRIMS
(ex NG 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12)
CCC, IBRD, IEC, IMF, ISO

Textiles and Clothing
(ex NG 4)
None

TRIPS
(ex NG 11)
CCC, UNCTAD, WIPO

Surveillance Body
None

Services
IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD

GNG
IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD

TNC
IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD