

28 February 1955

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Closing Stages of the Review of the General Agreement
and of the Ninth Session of the Contracting Parties

The CONTRACTING PARTIES are now considering the reports of the four main Working Parties which have shared the task of examining in detail the proposals for the Review of the Agreement. This is the penultimate stage of the Review. In the final stage, which will take place towards the end of the current week the specific amendments to the General Agreement will be collated in the form of Protocols.

At the conclusion of the Session, a number of instruments will be opened for signature. It is expected that the most important of these instruments will consist of:

- a Final Act, authenticating the texts of the Protocols of Amendment,
- two (or three) Protocols of Amendment,
- an Agreement containing the provisions relating to the structure and functions of the Organization for Trade Co-operation,
- a Declaration extending the firm validity of the tariff schedules.

A communiqué summarizing the amendments to the Agreement and of other matters arising out of the Review will be issued 14 days after the end of the Session.

The work of the Ninth Session will be completed simultaneously with the termination of the Review of the Agreement, and the usual press summary of the work of the Session (excluding the Review of the Agreement) will be issued early next week.