

MEMORANDUM

III-1-13-1

24 October 1958

TO: Leaders of Delegations to the Thirteenth Session of the
CONTRACTING PARTIES

FROM: The Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Observer representation by Hungary

The Hungarian Government has indicated its intention to withdraw its earlier request for an invitation to Hungarian experts as observers at the thirteenth session. In doing so the Hungarian Government has expressed its disappointment over the fact that opposition to the presence of Hungarian observers was made known by certain delegations on purely political grounds. The communication from the Permanent Mission of the Hungarian Government concludes as follows:

"My Government being keenly interested in the development of trade relations with all countries irrespective of their social or political structure, took interest in the proceedings of the thirteenth session of GATT. In this it was encouraged by the assurances given by leading Members of GATT in the course of the discussions taking place at the twelfth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations stating that GATT is an organization open to all. The opposition expressed by certain States Members of GATT to the presence of Hungarian observers on political grounds does not unfortunately seem to confirm these assurances."