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# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

## CONTRACTING PARTIES

Twenty-Third Session

### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

#### Corrigendum

#### Page 125

In the statement of Mr. TOURE substitute in the thirteenth line "former" for "latter".

In the statement of Mr. LALL substitute in the penultimate line "contracting parties" for "CONTRACTING PARTIES".

#### Page 131

Replace the statement of Mr. PRESS by the following:

"Mr. PRESS (New Zealand) said that his delegation welcomed the indication in the statement in document L/2616 that those decisions which had been in abeyance during the past year would now be dealt with as a matter of urgency. He noted, not as a criticism but in view of the importance of the Community in world trade, that the somewhat erratic progress of the EEC in achieving integration had posed problems for her trading partners, particularly because it had been difficult for them to forecast future conditions of trade with the Community. This has applied especially to agriculture and in this field at least the statement in paragraph 2 on page 4 of L/2616 that the actual evolution of the Community's trade was "a continued confirmation that the Common Market is naturally and increasingly open to the trade of the rest of the world. [and]..... that this trend is governed by permanent factors ....." was hard to sustain. The maintenance of such a trend would entail internal price and production policies of a kind that would ensure a share of the Community's market for efficient and competitive third country suppliers. Without such policies the internal pattern of supply and demand could change and result in a drastic reduction in imports. Assurance on this

\* English only/anglais seulement.

point appears so far to have been a missing element in the Community's Common Agricultural Policy. On the basis of the figures given on pages 5 and 6 of the EEC statement, his delegation had concluded that imports of those agricultural commodities which had been subject to regulations for some time had not increased at the same rate as those which had only recently come under the Common Agricultural Policy. However, it was noted that substantial increases in imports had been recorded for these products and he hoped that misgivings concerning future trends would yet prove to be wrong.

He considered that the statistics provided by the Community were insufficiently detailed to give a complete picture as regards trade and trends in respect of individual commodities and the field covered in the report was so large that it was difficult, at plenary meetings of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, to give adequate consideration to the many topics involved. He would suggest, therefore, that, at future sessions, a working party be created to consider the information supplied by the Community."