

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/M/110  
26 November 1975

Limited Distribution

COUNCIL  
21 November 1975

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on 21 November 1975

Chairman: Mr. K.A. SAHLGREN (Finland)

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Subjects discussed:</u> 1. Membership of the Council	2
2. Brazil -- Increase of bound duties	2
3. Indonesia -- Renegotiation of Schedule	4
4. Agreement between Finland and the German Democratic Republic	4
5. Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions - Review of the work of the Committee 1970-1974	5
6. Consultation on trade with Poland	6
7. Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices	7
8. Working Party on the acceptance of the Anti-Dumping Code	8
9. Egypt -- Consolidation of economic development tax -- Review under paragraph 6 of the Protocol of Accession	9
10. Provisional Accession of the Philippines	9
11. Provisional Accession of Tunisia	10
12. New Zealand -- Tariff-free quotas for handicraft products	11
13. Status of Protocols	11
14. Report of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	11
15. ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé	13
16. DISC and related panels	13
17. Germany -- Ban on Icelandic fish landings	14
18. Report of the Council	14

The Council observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Spanish Head of State.

1. Membership of the Council

The Chairman announced that the Government of Colombia had requested membership of the Council. He welcomed Colombia as a new member of the Council and Mr. Jaramillo as the Colombian representative.

2. Brazil - Increases of bound duties (L/4191 and Add.1, C/W/265)

The Chairman recalled that the question of the increases of bound duties in Schedule III - Brazil had first been brought to the attention of the Council at its meeting in July. The question had been postponed to the present meeting. The Council was now asked to consider the Brazilian request for a waiver (L/4191 and Add.1) on the basis of a draft decision circulated in document C/W/265.

The representative of the United States, while agreeing that a waiver was desirable in this case, expressed concern that in the second operative paragraph of the proposed decision reference was made to the application of Article XXXVI:8 in these renegotiations. This concern was related to the fact that this was a second series of renegotiations, the first having been conducted under the Decision of 27 February 1967 which already provided for the application of the provisions of Article XXXVI:8. Although the United States subscribed to the principles of Part IV, it was of the opinion that the purpose of Article XXXVI:8 was not that developing countries should be relieved of their obligations under Article XXVIII to maintain a general level of concessions during renegotiations. He expressed concern that, if developing countries repeatedly renegotiated, each time granting less reciprocity, little of the original level of concessions would remain. He felt that as a result of this practice, other contracting parties would be less willing to engage in negotiations with developing countries, which would not only seriously compromise the effective functioning of Part IV, but would also undermine the effectiveness of GATT in those functions for which it was created. While the United States would not expect a developing country to grant concessions which were inconsistent with its development, financial and trade needs, the United States expected that country to make the maximum effort consistent with those needs to provide full compensation for impaired concessions. He suggested an amendment to the preamble to the draft decision which would recognize the desirability of maintaining a general level of mutually advantageous concessions that would favour high and expanding levels of trade. He also proposed that the waiver should refer to Part IV in its entirety rather than specifically to Article XXXVI:8.

The representative of Brazil, while accepting the United States amendment to the preamble, said that he could not agree that the principle of non-reciprocity embodied in Article XXXVI:8 should not be specifically mentioned. This, in his view, was tantamount to depriving developing countries of their right under Part IV to pursue their development efforts. The provisions of Part IV were unsatisfactory from the point of view of developing countries in that they contained no binding commitments and were open to different interpretations. He believed that the results of the negotiations would be prejudged if reference to Article XXXVI:8 was eliminated. He also disagreed with the notion that developing countries, through repeated renegotiations, would reduce the original concessions to a minimum, as it was not possible to determine the degree of relative reciprocity at a given moment and the degree of reciprocity that would result from the renegotiations. He concluded his statement by pointing out that Part IV and other international instruments which were aimed at accelerating the economic development of developing countries would, in the long run, work towards enabling developing countries to assume larger obligations, as they would increase the share of those countries in international economic relations. This was also shown by the fact that the increase in imports of developing countries had been superior to the increase in their exports. This had been notably the case with Brazil.

Representatives of some developed contracting parties supported the request for a waiver made by Brazil. However, they also expressed concern that the principle of Article XXXVI:8 would be applied to these renegotiations. These renegotiations followed a previous round of negotiations during which the principle had already been applied, and the results of which Brazil had not been able fully to implement.

Representatives of a large number of developing countries supported the statement made by the representative of Brazil. They felt that the provisions of the draft decision were balanced and the removal of the reference to the principle of non-reciprocity would make them unbalanced. They considered that there was no legal basis for insisting that this principle should not apply in a second round of renegotiations. On the contrary, the non-application of this principle would lead to an erosion of the principles and objectives of Part IV. This was to be avoided, particularly since developing countries considered that the provisions of Part IV were already lacking in effectiveness. They, therefore, supported the Brazilian position that the reference to the principle of Article XXXVI:8 should be maintained, but could accept the proposed amendment to the preamble.

The representative of the United States reserved his delegation's position on this matter, while noting that the preambular paragraph proposed by him was acceptable.

The Council, keeping in mind the reservation made by the United States and taking into account the concern expressed by some delegations and the points of view submitted by a number of other delegations, approved the text of the draft decision with the time-limit of 31 March 1977 and with the amendment in the preamble, as proposed by the representative of the United States and as accepted by the Brazilian delegation.

The Council recommended that the draft decision be adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by means of a ballot to be taken at the thirty-first session.

3. Indonesia - Renegotiation of schedule (L/4248, C/W/269)

The Chairman recalled that under the Decision of 13 November 1973 the Government of Indonesia was authorized to apply certain rates of duty contained in its newly-introduced customs tariff, which were in excess of the bound duties, pending the completion of the necessary negotiations or consultations, before 31 December 1975.

The representative of Indonesia stated that, due to unforeseeable administrative and technical difficulties, the conduct of the negotiations had been delayed and could not be completed by the end of the year. His Government requested, therefore, an extension of the validity of the waiver until 31 December 1976 (L/4248).

He asked the contracting parties having an interest in the renegotiation to notify their intention to enter into renegotiation with Indonesia.

The representatives of Japan, New Zealand and Singapore, the latter speaking for the ASEAN countries, supported the extension of the waiver.

The Council agreed to recommend an extension of the time-limit and approved the text of the draft decision contained in document C/W/269.

The Council recommended the adoption of the draft decision by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by means of a ballot taken at the thirty-first session.

4. Agreement between Finland and the German Democratic Republic (L/4211)

The Chairman recalled that at its meeting in June 1975 the Council had been informed by the representative of Finland of the signature of an agreement between Finland and the German Democratic Republic. The text of the Agreement had since been distributed in document L/4211.

The representative of Finland said that the principal aim of his Government's Agreement with the German Democratic Republic was the reciprocal removal of obstacles to trade in order to solve, as far as possible, the problems arising for Finland from the economic integration processes in Eastern and Western Europe and to develop Finland's economic relations with the German Democratic Republic. He emphasized that the Finnish initiative in respect of the conclusion of this Agreement was fully in line with his Government's approach to the development of trade relations between countries having different economic and social systems. The Agreement had become operative as from 1 July 1975. It was, in his view, in accordance with the provisions and the spirit of Article XXIV of the GATT.

The Council agreed to establish a working party with the following terms of reference and membership:

Terms of Reference:

To examine, in the light of the relevant provisions of the General Agreement, the provisions of the Agreement between Finland and the German Democratic Republic, signed on 4 March 1975, and to report to the Council.

Membership:

The membership would be open to all contracting parties interested and wishing to serve on the working party.

Chairman: Mr. Tan (Singapore).

It was also agreed that contracting parties wishing to submit questions in writing relating to the provisions of the Agreement would be invited to send such questions to the secretariat by 23 January 1976 and that the Government of Finland would supply the answers to these questions within six weeks of the receipt of the written questions.

5. Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions - Review of the work of the Committee 1970-1974 (L/4200)

Mr. Dunkel (Switzerland), Chairman of the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions, recalled that the Council had been informed in November 1974 that a review of the work of the Committee was being undertaken by the secretariat. This review had been completed and was annexed to document L/4200. It was a factual report which precisely reflected what the Committee had done. The report was accompanied by a note by the Committee in which a number of points arising from the report had been listed. He suggested that the Council should not just

take note of what the Committee had done but should also reflect on what the Committee might have done in addition and whether it might have worked under better conditions.

The Council considered that the matters dealt with in the report were of great interest to a number of contracting parties and decided to keep it on its agenda.

#### 6. Consultation on trade with Poland (L/4237)

The Chairman recalled that the Protocol for the Accession of Poland provided for annual consultations between Poland and the CONTRACTING PARTIES. Furthermore, the CONTRACTING PARTIES were required to consider the establishment of a date for the termination of the transitional period, by the end of which any discriminatory elements in the remaining quantitative restrictions should be eliminated. The Eighth Annual Review under the Protocol had been carried out by a Working Party; its report was contained in document L/4237.

Mr. Chadha (India), Chairman of the Working Party, stated that the Working Party had noted that discriminatory restrictions against imports from Poland were still maintained in four customs areas. The Working Party had also noted that Austria had abolished all discriminatory restrictions with effect from 1 January 1975. He also mentioned that the representative of Poland had expressed the legal point of view that every member country of the European Communities was bound by the obligation to eliminate discriminatory restrictions. In reply, the representative of the European Communities had stated in the Working Party that the competence as regards the operation of quantitative restrictions had been totally transferred to the institutions of the Communities and that in his view the Communities had fulfilled all their obligations under the Protocol. The Working Party had also had a discussion on the possible relationship between the formation of Polish export prices, with particular reference to the Polish system of subsidies, and the continued maintenance of discriminatory restrictions. The Working Party had noted with satisfaction that Poland had considerably exceeded its import commitment, the increase in imports from contracting parties from 1973 to 1974 being 41.3 per cent. He regretted to report that the Working Party had not been able to agree on the question of establishing a terminal date for the abolition of discriminatory restrictions.

The representative of Poland said that the hard-core problem in the annual consultations between Poland and the CONTRACTING PARTIES had been for many years the existence of discriminatory quantitative restrictions. Although Poland had fulfilled, and even exceeded, its import commitments, several contracting parties, including member countries of the European Community, were still maintaining discriminatory quantitative restrictions against imports from Poland. He

considered that differences in economic systems could not be used as an argument for the maintenance of such restrictions. He pointed out that the interests of importers were sufficiently protected by safeguard provisions in the Protocol of Accession and other relevant provisions of the GATT. He stressed that the Protocol of Accession provided for the complete elimination of discriminatory quantitative restrictions after the termination of the transitional period. He could not therefore, accept a date for termination on terms which did not provide for complete elimination of discriminatory restrictions, as Poland would be then placed at a disadvantage in the balance of rights and obligations under the GATT. He concluded by stating that, as six consecutive consultations had failed to determine a terminal date, his authorities might question the usefulness of the annual consultations with the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

The Council noted that it had not been possible to agree on a recommendation with regard to the question of the establishment of a terminal date for the transitional period. In accordance with the provisions of the Protocol, this question would, therefore, be re-examined at the ninth annual review.

The Council adopted the Report.

7. Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices - Report of the Committee (L/4241)

The Chairman recalled that under the provisions of the Agreement on the Implementation of Article VI the Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices would meet annually in order to provide opportunities for the parties to the Agreement to consult on matters relating to the Anti-Dumping Code. The Committee's Seventh Report had been distributed in document L/4241.

Mr. Huslid (Norway), Chairman of the Committee, pointed out that Hungary had adhered to the Anti-Dumping Code and had, therefore, acquired membership of the Committee. The representative of Australia, who had attended the meeting as an observer, had informed the Committee that Australia would accept the Code in the near future. As to the deliberations of the Committee, he stated that these had centred around the various anti-dumping practices of some countries, particularly those of Canada and the United States. In addition, the Committee had had an exchange of views on the question of the anti-dumping investigation in the United States, as referred to the Committee by the Council on 25 September. He pointed out that several members of the Committee had expressed their concern at this investigation, taking the view that it had been initiated in contradiction to certain provisions of the Anti-Dumping Code. The representative of the United States, however, had stated that it had not yet been determined that injury had taken place. In the view of the United States, the US practices were in full conformity with the spirit and letter of the Code. Mr. Huslid stated that, although differences of opinion still existed on these and other issues, the discussions had contributed to a better mutual understanding of the positions taken.

In conclusion he stated that the Committee had agreed to draw up an analytical inventory of problems and issues that had arisen under the Code and in its application by parties to the Code. Such an inventory should provide a more solid basis for further deliberations as to how the provisions of the Code should be interpreted and fully complied with. The Committee had agreed to meet again early in 1976 to start this work on the basis of a paper to be prepared by the secretariat.

The Council adopted the Report.

8. Working Party on the Acceptance of the Anti-Dumping Code - Report of Working Party (L/4239)

The Chairman recalled that the Council had established a Working Party in September 1970 to examine the special problems of developing countries in connexion with their acceptance of the Anti-Dumping Code. The Working Party had met a number of times and its Chairman had made oral reports to the Council regularly. Its final report had been circulated in document L/4239.

Mr. Huslid (Norway), Chairman of the Working Party, said that the Working Party had made considerable efforts to deal with the problems of developing countries by the adoption of a suitable interpretative note to the Code but it had not been possible to reach agreement on a text acceptable to all members. On the one hand, developing countries had insisted that any interpretative note must be of a certain substance in relation to their special problems. On the other hand, developed countries, although recognizing the special problems of developing countries in relation to the determination of prices, had not found it possible to accept solutions which in their operation would infringe the principles of the Code or be in contravention of their national laws and policies, based on the Code. He could, therefore, only conclude that at the present time and in the present context there was no basis for a result satisfactory to all parties. He referred to proposals for a review of the Anti-Dumping Code in the framework of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and to suggestions that there might be a possibility of finding a solution to these problems in this broader framework. This view, however, was not shared by all parties.

The representative of India regretted the inability of the Working Party to come to a definite conclusion. He stated that developing countries had not been able to participate actively in the discussions which had preceded the drawing up of the Anti-Dumping Code and the Code did not take into account the special problems of developing countries. This was borne out by the fact that developing countries had not been able to adhere to the Code. The CONTRACTING PARTIES had

recognized the need to rectify this situation by setting up the Working Party. Developing countries considered their special problems of sufficient importance to justify an appropriate revision of the Code. They appreciated, however, the difficulties expressed by some of the adherents to the Code and had accepted, in a spirit of compromise, the suggestion to draw up an interpretative note. He regretted the unwillingness of some adherents to the Code to provide differential treatment for developing countries, the need for which had been recognized in the Tokyo Declaration. He expressed the hope that this situation, whereby developing countries were prevented from adhering to the Code because their special problems were not taken into account, would not be perpetuated.

The representative of Egypt associated himself with the representative of India and also expressed the hope that the special problems of developing countries would be duly taken care of in the future.

The Council noted that the Working Party had not been able to agree on a solution and adopted the report of the Working Party.

9. Egypt - Consolidation of Economic Development Tax - Review under paragraph 6 of the Protocol of Accession (L/4243, C/W/268)

The Chairman stated that under paragraph 6 of its Protocol of Accession the Government of Egypt had reserved the possibility of maintaining in effect the temporary consolidation of economic development tax on bound duties. The Protocol provided that if the measure was still in effect on 31 December 1975 the matter should be reviewed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

The representative of Egypt stated that his Government had kept the matter under review but considered it necessary to maintain the measure in effect beyond 31 December 1975 because the tax was essential for the financing of the Second Five Year Development Plan which would end in 1980. His Government's intention had been notified to the CONTRACTING PARTIES in document L/4243.

Having reviewed the matter in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol of Accession, the Council agreed that the measure could be maintained in effect until the end of 1980, by which time, if the measure was still in effect, the matter should again be reviewed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The Council approved the text of a draft decision (C/W/268) and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the thirty-first session.

10. Provisional Accession of the Philippines (L/4245)

The Chairman stated that the Declaration of 9 August 1973 on the Provisional Accession of the Philippines and the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the same date, which provided for the participation of the Philippines in the work of

the CONTRACTING PARTIES, were due to expire on 31 December 1975. A request by the Government of the Philippines for an extension of these arrangements had been circulated in document L/4245.

The representative of the Philippines recalled that his Government had undertaken to conduct tariff negotiations with a view to accession in the framework of the multilateral trade negotiations. As the negotiations had not proceeded as foreseen and would not be concluded by the end of 1975, his Government requested an extension of the arrangements of provisional accession for a further period in order to complete the procedures necessary for its accession.

The Council agreed to extend the arrangements for the provisional accession of the Philippines until 31 December 1977, it approved the text of the Procès-Verbal Extending the Declaration to 31 December 1977 and agreed that the Procès-Verbal should be opened for acceptance by the parties to the Declaration. The Council approved the text of the Decision extending the invitation to the Philippines to participate in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to 31 December 1977 and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their thirty-first session.

#### 11. Provisional Accession of Tunisia (L/4246)

The Chairman stated that the Declaration of 12 November 1959 on the Provisional Accession of Tunisia and the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the same date, which provided for the participation of Tunisia in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, were due to expire on 31 December 1975. A request by the Government of Tunisia for a further extension of these arrangements had been circulated in document L/4246.

The representative of Tunisia stated that owing to technical problems involving changes in the tariff structure, his Government had not yet been able to enter into negotiations with a view to definitive accession. His Government requested therefore a further extension of the arrangements for provisional accession.

The Council agreed to extend the arrangements for the provisional accession of Tunisia until 31 December 1977, it approved the text of the Tenth Procès-Verbal Extending the Declaration to 31 December 1977 and agreed that the Procès-Verbal should be opened for acceptance by the parties to the Declaration. The Council approved the text of the Decision extending the invitation to Tunisia to participate in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to 31 December 1977 and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their thirty-first session.

12. New Zealand - Tariff-free quotas for handicraft products (L/4249)

The Chairman recalled that under the Decision of 13 November 1973 the Government of New Zealand was authorized to establish tariff-free quotas for limited range of handicraft products originating in certain countries in the South Pacific. The waiver provided for an annual report on the action taken by New Zealand under the Decision. The first annual report by the Government of New Zealand had been submitted in document L/4249.

The representative of New Zealand said that the Pacific Islands Handicraft Scheme had been in operation for a year. He pointed out that the capacity of supply by the island countries had been greater than the amount of NZ\$ 50,000 originally estimated. In fact, total imports under the Scheme had amounted to approximately NZ\$ 100,000. Although this trade was small, it was of considerable significance for the islands' economies. He noted the discriminatory aspects of the Scheme, but he did not expect a substantial growth in trade in the products in question.

The Council took note of the report.

13. Status of Protocols (C/W/267)

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to document C/W/267 which contained a report by the Director-General on the status of the protocols upon which some action was still required by one or more contracting parties. He noted that the Protocol Introducing Part IV was now in force amongst all but three contracting parties.

As the closing date for the acceptance of the Protocol would expire at the end of the thirty-first session the Council agreed to recommend to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, that the closing date should be extended until the end of the thirty-second session for those contracting parties which had not been able to accept it before the end of the thirty-first session.

The Council approved the text of a draft decision to this effect and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

14. Report of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration (L/4229)

Mr. Gates (Australia), Chairman of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration said that the Committee had examined the final position of the 1974 budget of GATT, the 1974 accounts, the financing of the 1975 budget and the budget for 1976 of the GATT secretariat.

With regard to the 1975 budgetary position of GATT it had been anticipated that the 1975 budget might close with a year-end surplus of some Sw F 700,000. Taking into account that outstanding contributions at 31 October had amounted to over Sw F 3.7 million, including some Sw F 2.7 million in respect of the current year's assessment, the Committee concluded that if no further contributions were to be received before the end of the year the presently estimated surplus, together with the entire amount of the Working Capital Fund, would be required to cover the cash deficit. No recommendations could therefore be made regarding the transfer of the anticipated surplus to 1976 income. He said that the Committee intended to review the situation when the final 1975 position would be known in early 1976.

He stressed that the outstanding contributions of Sw F 3.7 million constituted a matter of great concern to the Committee. In view of the importance of avoiding possible financial problems, particularly during the Trade Negotiations, the Committee recommended that governments be strongly urged to pay pending contributions as soon as possible and to pay each year's contribution as early as possible in the year in which it falls due.

Referring to the budget estimates for 1976, he said that some members of the Committee had felt that an overall budgetary increase of 22.4 per cent was too high, although they recognized that 3.79 per cent and 8.84 per cent of the total increase were in respect of the International Trade Centre and the Building Fund respectively. The Committee subsequently reached the conclusion that reductions of Sw F 401,600 could be made and accordingly, it recommended the approval of Sw F 34,195,400 as expenditure estimates for 1976. One member of the Committee was of the opinion that further reductions could be made and had reserved his position under several headings of the budget.

With respect to the International Trade Centre, Mr. Gates said that, due to the effects of inflation and currency fluctuations, it had been found necessary to increase the regular Centre budget for 1974-1975 by \$564,000. The revised GATT share for 1975 amounted to \$2,162,000 against \$1,896,500 originally approved by the CONTRACTING PARTIES. However, as the GATT budget was expressed in Swiss francs no additional GATT appropriations would be necessary. The Committee recommended the approval of the revised Centre estimates for 1975 on the assumption that the United Nations would contribute the same amount.

The Committee had also examined the Centre estimates for the years 1976 and 1977, although the 1976 GATT budget provisions covered only 1976 contribution to the Centre. The Committee concurred in the ACABQ recommendation that the Centre's estimates for biennium 1976-1977 could be reduced by \$136,000, of which \$86,000 would relate to 1976. The provisions in the GATT budget for its 1976 Centre contribution could thus be reduced by Sw F 133,000. GATT's contribution to the amended 1976 Centre budget amounted thus to \$2,138,000.

The representative of Germany said that his Government had reserved its position in relation to several headings of the budget. His Government had thoroughly re-examined the budget proposals and in the light of further discussions it was now prepared to accept the revised GATT budget estimates for 1976 at their present level as revised by the Committee. Consequently the reservations appearing in the report were withdrawn. The German contribution was still subject to the approval of Parliament.

The Council approved the recommendations contained in paragraphs 15, 18, 21, 30 and 46 of Section A of the report - the GATT secretariat - and those contained in paragraphs 50 and 59 of Section B of the report concerning the International Trade Centre.

The Council approved the Report of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration (L/4229) and recommended its adoption by the CONTRACTING PARTIES, including the recommendations therein and the Resolution on the Expenditure of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1976 and the Ways and Means to meet such Expenditure.

15. ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé

The Chairman recalled that at its meeting on 11 July 1975 the Council had established a working party on the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé, but had agreed to defer the nomination of a chairman to a later meeting. After consultations with a number of contracting parties he now proposed to nominate Ambassador Easterbrook Smith (New Zealand) as Chairman of the Working Party.

The Council agreed to this.

16. DISC and related panels

The representative of the European Communities recalled that, on 30 July 1973, the Council had set up a panel relating to the United States tax legislation on Domestic International Sales Corporations (DISC). The matter had been referred to the CONTRACTING PARTIES by the European Communities in conformity with the provisions of Article XXIII:2. The composition of the panel had been left to consultation and agreement with the parties concerned. He expressed concern that it had not yet been possible to arrive at an agreed composition of the panel and therefore, to begin with the panel's work.

The representative of the United States regretted that the composition of the panel on DISC and the other related panels on tax practices of some EEC member States had not yet been established. He thought this was due to the particular technical nature of the matters to be examined. He agreed that it was desirable to establish the full membership of the panel as soon as possible in order to begin the work.

The Council took note of the statements made.

17. Germany - Ban on Icelandic fish landings

The representative of Iceland informed the Council that the ban on Icelandic fish landings in the harbours of the Federal Republic of Germany, about which the Council had been informed in February 1975, had been lifted.

The representative of Germany confirmed the Icelandic statement and added that delegations of both countries had continued discussions until a few days ago. Full agreement between the parties had been arrived at subject to parliamentary approval.

The Council took note of the statements.

18. Report of the Council

The secretariat had distributed in document C/W/264 and Addendum 1 a draft of the Council's report to the CONTRACTING PARTIES on the matters considered by the Council since the thirtieth session and any action taken in this respect.

Several representatives proposed amendments to the draft.

The Chairman requested the secretariat to insert the various amendments proposed as well as suitable additional notes regarding action taken in that meeting.

The Council agreed that the report with these additions should be distributed and presented to the CONTRACTING PARTIES by the Chairman of the Council.