GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Committee on Trade and Development

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OPERATION OF PART IV OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT

Statements by Governments

Addendum

AUSTRIA

- 1. Austria recognizes the special importance and urgency which should be given to the existing problems of the developing countries. These problems are manifold and complex. In order to implement Part IV of the General Agreement to the largest possible extent it is necessary to continue to draw increased attention to these problems in the course of the consultations within the various GATT groups.
- 2. Austria has created better market access to the developing countries by various measures. In carrying out her liberalization programme Austria has always given priority to the wishes of the developing countries. In the industrial field in practice all import restrictions—with the exception of certain cotton textile items—are eliminated. A considerable number of tariff concessions which Austria has granted during the Kennedy negotiations have already been fully implemented, i.e. without stages.
- 3. Austria is of the opinion that measures of trade policy in favour of the developing countries should be supplemented by effective measures in the field of trade promotion. In this field the UNCTLD/GLTT International Trade Centre carries out particularly valuable work.
- 4. Austria sees in the conclusion of raw material agreements suitable contribution towards the efforts to improve and stabilize the export earnings of developing countries.
- 5. Finally, attention should be drawn to the efforts under way within various bodies to elaborate a preference scheme in favour of the developing countries. Austria takes an active part in these efforts. According to our opinion the granting of a preference scheme by all the main industrialized countries constitutes a step towards improved export possibilities to the developing countries.