

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Committee on Trade and Development
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PROSPECTS FOR INCREASING TRADE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Note by the Secretariat

1. Paragraph 5 of the Ministerial decision on GATT Rules and Activities Relating to Developing Countries instructs the Committee on Trade and Development to carry out an examination of the prospects for increasing trade between developed and developing countries and the possibilities in GATT for facilitating this objective. The action taken in this regard is to be reviewed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their 1984 Session.
2. At its forty-ninth session (COM.TD/114) the committee had an initial exchange of views on the examination called for in Paragraph 5. It was agreed that the chairman would hold informal consultations on this matter and that the secretariat would prepare appropriate background material for the next meeting of the committee.
3. Following such consultations, the secretariat is organizing background material under the following three headings:

I The current trade situation

1. Trade and payments situation of developed countries;
2. Trade and payments situation of developing countries;
3. The nature and evolution of trade, investment and financial links between developed and developing countries.

II Prospects for increasing trade between developed and developing countries

1. Trends in production and trade in developed and developing countries;
2. Evolution and changes in:
 - (a) broad sectoral composition of exports;
 - (b) destination of exports;
 - (c) share of developing countries in world exports and imports;

3. The current financial and debt situation and prospects for increased trade.

III Possibilities in GATT for facilitating an increase in trade

1. Past trade liberalization efforts in GATT and developing countries;
 2. Factors governing possible further increases in imports in developed and developing countries;
 3. Possibilities for future work in GATT on expansion of trade between developed and developing countries.
4. It is hoped that this material can be available, in a preliminary draft form, for further consultations among delegations early in 1984.