GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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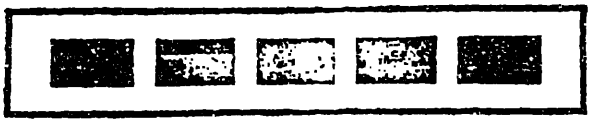
IRELAND - ACCESSION

Request for Participation in Tariff Negotiations

(Note by the Executive Secretary)

1. The following communication has been received by the Executive Secretary from the Minister for External Affairs of the Government of Ireland.

> "I have the honour to inform you that my Government desire to discuss the terms on which they may accede to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade under Article XXXIII thereof and, to this end, request the consent of the Contracting Parties to their participation in the tariff negotiations at the Tariff Conference, 1960-61.
>
> "In such negotiations it would be the desire of my Government to obtain the agreement of the Contracting Parties to terms of accession which would permit of the maintenance of the special trade relations between Ireland and the United Kingdom reflected in the Trade Agreements of 25 April 1938, 31 July 1948 and 13 April 1960."

2. The Executive Secretary proposes that the request of the Government of Ireland be considered by the Council of representatives of the contracting parties at its meeting on 19 - 23 September and would recommend that the Council authorize the Tariff Negotiations Committee to undertake the discussions requested by the Government of Ireland.