GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

CPC/117 23 October 1992 Special Distribution

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Preferential Arrangements Among Developing Countries Negotiated in GATT

COMMITTEE OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Summary of Discussions at the Sixty-Third Meeting held on 16 October 1992

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Committee of Participating Countries provided for in the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries held its sixty-third meeting on 16 October 1992, under the Chairmanship of Mr. S. Jamaluddin (Bangladesh).

2. The draft agenda circulated in document CPC/W/160 was adopted.

Schedules of concessions

(a) Advanced implementation

3. The Chairman recalled the discussion at the last meeting on a proposal for advanced implementation on a preferential basis of Uruguay Round concessions and said he did not wish to re-open the discussion, unless any member of the Committee wished to add something. No member wished to do so. The Chairman <u>reiterated</u> the agreement of the Committee to revert to this proposal at the end of the Uruguay Round.

(b) Erosion of Preferential Margins

4. The Chairman recalled the Committee's discussions at the last meeting on the secretariat paper on Erosion of preferential margins (CPC/W/154). Members agreed that it would not be useful to re-open the discussion.

The Committee took note of the agreement at the last meeting to revert to this issue at the end of the Uruguay Round.

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Annual Report

5. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to the draft Nineteenth Annual Report circulated in document CPC/W/158 and Addenda 1 and 2, and urged members who had not already done so to supply data on trade in items in the Protocol.

Following its consideration of the draft report (as amended) the Committee <u>adopted</u> the report.

Derestriction of documents

6. The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to document CPC/W/159, which contained a list of CPC/- and CPC/W/- documents which on the basis of guidelines adopted by the Committee appeared to be eligible for derestriction.

The Committee <u>agreed</u> to derestrict the documents listed in document CPC/W/159.

Rotation of officers

7. The Chairman declared that in accordance with the rules of procedure the Chairman of the Committee in 1993 would be the representative of Bangladesh and the Vice-Chairman the representative of Brazil.

Other business

8. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to Let/1790 announcing India's withdrawal from the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries, with effect from 29 March 1993.

The representative of India confirmed India's withdrawal and said he felt the reason was the progressive lowering of m.f.n. tariffs.

The Committee took note of the statement by the representative of India and of Let/1790.

Next meeting

9. In accordance with normal practice, the date of the next meeting will be fixed in consultation with members and the secretariat.