

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

CG.18/W/40
27 June 1980

Special Distribution

Consultative Group of Eighteen
Twelfth Meeting
15 July 1980

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

It is suggested that at its twelfth meeting the Consultative Group address itself to the following:

1. Structural adjustment and trade policy
2. The trade policy aspects of the North-South Dialogue
3. The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies
4. Other business

Item 1 - Structural adjustment and trade policy

In the GATT Work Programme adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their thirty-fifth session, the Consultative Group of Eighteen is requested to examine the question of structural adjustment and trade policy further and to advise the Council, and also through it, the Committee on Trade and Development, on the modalities for carrying out further work in this area, taking into account the continuing rôle of the Committee on Trade and Development.

At its last meeting the Group began its examination of the subject. It had before it a secretariat paper listing themes for discussion (CG.18/W/37) and a paper distributed at the request of the alternate member from Jamaica (CG.18/W/39). In order to help the Group further to clarify the issues involved and to come to a consensus on the approach to structural adjustment problems in GATT the secretariat has prepared a more detailed paper on structural adjustment in the light of the comments made at the last meeting (CG.18/W/41).

Item 2 - The trade policy aspects of the North-South Dialogue

The Group began at its last meeting an exploration of the contribution the GATT could make in dealing with the trade aspects of the problems discussed in the North-South Dialogue. The Group may wish to continue its debate in the light of the latest developments concerning the examination

and exploration of these problems in various global fora so that the issues which lend themselves to action in the GATT and the manner in which these issues might be addressed may be seen more clearly.

Item 3 - The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies

Under this item the Group may wish to discuss current trends and prospects in the international economy and in production and trade with a view to exchanging views on their implications for the conduct of trade policies. To help the Group focus its discussion the secretariat has prepared a short paper on this issue (CG.18/W/42).

Item 4 - Other business