

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

SR.38/8
16 December 1982

Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES
Thirty-Eighth Session
Ministerial Meeting
(24-29 November 1982)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

Held in the Geneva International Conference Centre,
on Saturday, 27 November 1982, at 10 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. ALLAN J. MacEACHEN (Canada)

Subject discussed: Ministerial Part of the Session

The CHAIRMAN said that the purpose of this meeting was to bring representatives up-to-date on the results thus far from the intensive series of consultations which he had held during the past three days. He had met with delegations of a number of developing countries on 25 November on the questions of protectionism and safeguards. There had also been consultations with a large number of delegations on dispute settlement and, later in that day he had met with a large number of delegations for an overall assessment of the situation.

He said that in the evening of 25 November it had become evident to him that if solutions were to be found for the remaining issues, it would be necessary to continue this work in smaller groups. He expressed regret that it had not been possible to involve in this work every delegation, but he had tried to bring together representative delegations in smaller groups in an effort to resolve the difficulties.

He then assured the delegations that while the work was not yet completed, progress had been made. However, there remained some difficulties to be resolved, notably in respect of protectionism, dispute settlement, safeguards, agriculture and services. He expressed the hope that the work would be completed on the following day at which time there could be a final assessment of the work.

The meeting adjourned at 10.35 p.m.