

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINTH MEETING

Held in the Geneva International Conference Centre,
on Monday, 29 November 1982, at 3.30 p.m.

Corrigendum

On page 9, the first full paragraph should be amended to read as follows:

"Mr. VILLAR (Spain) welcomed the fact that the difficult work of the Ministerial meeting had culminated in a realistic Ministerial Declaration, even though this end result of a delicate negotiation could not fully meet the desires of all participants. He said that the Declaration was opening a new horizon of hope based on the ordering of international trade within the system of GATT, completed with some of the reviews and updating which were indispensable. He said that Spain had accepted a high degree of commitment within the GATT. It had consolidated 50 per cent of its tariff positions, had liberalized most of its foreign trade and had endeavoured to adapt it to the GATT system. Spain would continue to make efforts in the direction of compliance as far as its difficult economic situation would allow and also to the extent that the other contracting parties would assume their obligations and would also comply with the Ministerial Declaration. For these reasons, Spain would take an active part in the examination referred to by the Declaration in respect of quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures. As to the commercial problems of fishing, the representative of Spain reiterated the concern of his authorities as well as their firm belief that a genuine study of these problems would necessarily have to take into account the effects on catches and on the international trade in fish products brought about by the modification of maritime fishing zones. Finally, he recalled that his authorities had not considered it opportune to place the matter of services in the Declaration. However, in a spirit of co-operation and compromise, Spain had accepted the text in the hope that an analysis of this question would prove useful for all and every contracting party. It was his belief that the plan of action contained in the Declaration and the spirit in it embodied would strengthen the instrument already available - the GATT system - so as to avoid the disastrous consequences of past crises which, at the time, did not have the benefit of such instrument."