

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Prepared by the Secretariat

Addendum

Sub-Group "Subsidies and Countervailing Duties"

1. At its meeting in April, the Sub-Group resumed discussion of problems encountered in the areas of subsidies and countervailing duties and of proposals for appropriate solutions to these problems submitted by a number of delegations. It had a further exchange of views on differentiated treatment for developing countries. There was a widespread recognition in the Sub-Group that subsidies and countervailing duties were areas where special and differentiated treatment for developing countries is both feasible and appropriate. On the basis of positions to be submitted by delegations on the major issues involved and those already made, the secretariat has been asked to prepare a working paper setting out a checklist of points on such issues for examination by the Group at its next meeting.

Group "Sector Approach"

2. At its April meeting, the Group discussed a proposal by one delegation on elements of an agreement to liberalize trade in copper products. The Group also examined the background documentation prepared by the secretariat concerning certain sectors, including sectors of possible interest to developing countries, with a view to considering the possibilities offered by the sector approach as a complementary technique in the negotiations including the question of differential treatment for developing countries. The Group heard comments and suggestions by a number of delegations concerning the future work of the Group. The Group agreed that the secretariat should prepare documentation relating to points of trade interest to developing countries in connexion with their copper-based industries and in the field of handicraft products. The Group also agreed that, at its next meeting, it would revert to the points it had examined and take up the additional documentation to be provided by the secretariat.