L/4905 3 December 1979 Limited Distribution

ACTION BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES ON THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Decision of 28 November 1979

- 1. The CONTRACTING PARTIES reaffirm their intention to ensure the unity and consistency of the GATT system, and to this end they shall oversee the operation of the system as a whole and take action as appropriate.
- 2. The CONTRACTING PARTIES note that as a result of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, a number of Agreements covering certain non-tariff measures and trade in Bovine Meat and Dairy Products have been drawn up. They further note that these Agreements will go into effect as between the parties to these Agreements as from 1 January 1980 or 1 January 1981 as may be the case and for other parties as they accede to these Agreements.
- 3. The CONTRACTING PARTIES also note that existing rights and benefits under the GATT of contracting parties not being parties to these Agreements, including those derived from Article I, are not affected by these Agreements.
- 4. In the context of 1 and 3 above, the CONTRACTING PARTIES would receive adequate information on developments relating to the operation of each Agreement and to this end there will be regular reports from the concerned Committees or Councils to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The CONTRACTING PARTIES may request additional reports on any aspect of the various Committees' or Councils' work.
- 5. Further, the CONTRACTING PARTIES understand that interested non-signatory contracting parties will be able to follow the proceedings of the Committees or Councils in an observer capacity, and that satisfactory procedures for such participation would be worked out by the Committees or Councils.