

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/SG/6

2 November 1976

Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Safeguards"

MEETING OF OCTOBER 1976

Summing-up by the Acting Chairman

1. The Group met on 27 and 28 October 1976. It noted that Amb. H. Colliander (Sweden) had had to give up the chairmanship of the Group on the assumption of new responsibilities outside Geneva. The Group thanked Amb. Colliander for his work as its Chairman and regretted that he was not able to continue. It was agreed that the secretariat should act as Chairman for the present session.
2. The Group invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this session of the Group as an observer.
3. The Group noted the communications received from Chairmen of other Groups or Sub-Groups (MTN/SG/W/15).
4. The representative of Japan introduced a document setting out Japan's view on the multilateral safeguard system (MTN/SG/W/16). A number of preliminary comments were made on this paper.
5. The Group then addressed itself to the specific proposals tabled by the United States (MTN/SG/W/11). A large number of delegations commented in some detail on the ten specific points in this paper and on the four proposals for complementary action which, in the view of the United States, were necessary to establish the effective and equitable operation of the safeguard mechanism. Comments were also made on certain other major issues, e.g. whether safeguard action should be taken on a most-favoured-nation or a selective basis. Certain of the statements made are being circulated in MTN/SG/W/17, 18 and 19.
6. The Group also discussed the proposals tabled by developing countries and in particular by Brazil, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan contained in MTN/3D/5, Annexes 3, 4 and 5 and in MTN/SG/W/10 which many speakers saw as often complementary to the proposal by the United States.

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7. The Group noted that it was not the present intention of delegations to table major new proposals or introduce major new elements, although the right to do so of course remained.

8. The Group agreed to continue its work at its next meeting on the basis of the elements in the specific proposals before it, including the proposals for special and differentiated treatment for developing countries, and the considerations advanced by other delegations.

9. The Group agreed to hold its next meeting in the week of 14 February 1977.