GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
CG.18/W/65
21 January 1982
Special Distribution

Consultative Group of Eighteen
Seventeenth Meeting
10-12 February 1982

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. It is suggested that at its seventeenth meeting the Consultative Group of Eighteen address itself to the following:

1. The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies

2. Contribution of the Consultative Group to the preparation of the Ministerial Meeting in November 1982

3. Agriculture in the GATT

4. Other business

Item 1 - The current economic situation and its implications for trade policies

2. It is proposed that the Group review under this item the current situation in international trade. A brief paper by the secretariat describing recent developments in the world economy and their implications for trade policies is circulated as CG.18/W/66.

Item 2 - Contribution of the Consultative Group to the preparation of the Ministerial Meeting in November 1982

3. The Preparatory Committee for the Ministerial Meeting has decided that it would welcome contributions by other GATT bodies for the preparation of the Ministerial Meeting; in principle these should be submitted before 20 April 1982. The Group may therefore wish to discuss further the topics suggested by members of the Group for consideration by Ministers. The secretariat has submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the Ministerial Meeting a factual catalogue of the topics that have been suggested in various GATT bodies, including the Consultative Group of Eighteen (PREP.COM/W/1). This catalogue is distributed for convenience also to the members of the Group. Secretariat papers relating to topics included in the catalogue were issued as documents CG.18/W/41, 43, 45,46,63 and 64. CG.18/W/60 and 61 are also relevant.

Item 3 - Agriculture in the GATT

4. At its meeting in October 1981, the Consultative Group agreed that it would continue at its next meeting the examination of the issues highlighted by the secretariat paper entitled "Agriculture in GATT" (CG.18/W/59). It also agreed that the secretariat would complete and improve the analysis contained in this document. In response to this request the secretariat has prepared a revision of the document (CG.18/W/59/Rev.1), which incorporates the changes suggested in document Spec(81)66 distributed on 23 December 1981 to the members of the Group for their comments and advice.

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5. Under this agenda item the Group may also wish to discuss any agricultural topics suggested for consideration by Ministers at their November 1982 meeting.

Item 4 - Other Business