

**PREPARATORY COMMITTEE  
FOR THE  
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

RESTRICTED

**PC/IPL/W/3**

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**SUB-COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL,  
PROCEDURAL AND LEGAL MATTERS**

**ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE GATT AND URUGUAY ROUND BODIES  
AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Note by the Secretariat

Under the mandate assigned to it by the Preparatory Committee, the Sub-Committee on Institutional, Procedural and Legal Matters is required, *inter alia*, to make recommendations concerning the appropriate arrangements with respect to relations with other organizations referred to in Article V of the WTO Agreement.

To assist it in this task, the Sub-Committee, at its meeting on 13 June 1994, requested the Secretariat to compile a list of inter-governmental organizations mentioned in the Uruguay Round Final Act texts together with the provisions therein that provided parameters for cooperation with these organizations, as well as of other inter-governmental organizations whose work might be relevant to the WTO. This Note was circulated as PC/IPL/W/2 dated 29 June 1994. At its meeting on 4 July, the Sub-Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare an additional note describing the existing arrangements between the GATT 1947 and Uruguay Round bodies on the one hand, and other international organizations on the other.

The present Note has been prepared in response to that request. Sections I, II and III set out the arrangements for observer status of international organizations in GATT bodies, in bodies established under certain arrangements negotiated under GATT auspices, and in the Uruguay Round. Section IV provides information on other arrangements that exist with certain organizations generally, and in particular with the IMF, the World Bank, the organizations in the United Nations system, the CCC and the ISO. Annexes I and II provide details on certain arrangements entered into between the GATT and the IMF, and the GATT and the UN. Annex III lists the international organizations with observer status in various GATT bodies, as well as those organizations in which the GATT has observer status or whose meetings it is invited to attend. Organizations referred to by acronyms in the body of the Note may be identified by reference to the Synoptic table in Annex III G.

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I. Arrangements for observer status of international organizations in GATT bodies<sup>1</sup>

(i) Observers at Sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

1. Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure for sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES (BISD 12S/10) provides as follows: "Representatives of other governments invited to the United Nations Conference

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<sup>1</sup>A Note by the Secretariat on observer status in GATT is contained in C/173. This Note should be read in conjunction with the Decision taken by the Council in July 1993 (L/7286) concerning observer status of governments in the Council. Document C/173/Suppl.3/Rev.2 provides an updated list of observers to GATT.

on Trade and Employment and of intergovernmental organizations may attend the meetings as observers on the invitation of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and, on the invitation of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, participate without vote in accordance with the terms of such invitation."

2. Pursuant to this rule, the CONTRACTING PARTIES have admitted as observers at sessions the organizations listed in Annex III A. While there have been a few instances where observer status has been requested by an international organization, and granted, only for a particular session, observer status has normally been granted for an indefinite period.

(ii) Observers in the Committee on Trade and Development

3. The Committee on Trade and Development has not adopted any rules for the admission of observers to its meetings. Under a long-standing practice, international organizations are invited to attend meetings of the Committee as observers upon receipt of a formal request from them. In certain instances, members of the Committee have been consulted informally to determine that there would be no objection to issuing an invitation to the requesting international organizations. Although the need has not arisen, any requests that presented a problem would be brought before the Committee. The organizations presently invited to attend as observers are shown in Annex III C.

(iii) Observers at meetings of the Council of Representatives

4. International organizations with observer status at sessions are not automatically admitted as observers to the Council or to those of its subsidiary bodies. At its first meeting in September 1960, the Council agreed that the following should be invited to be represented by observers at Council meetings: "inter-governmental organizations, as follows: International Monetary Fund, Organization for European Economic Co-operation,<sup>2</sup> United Nations, other inter-governmental organizations directly interested in matters before the Council, and also the secretariats of regional associations for economic integration." The organizations presently invited to Council meetings in accordance with this provision are shown in Annex III B.

5. The Council has not taken a decision on the rights and obligations of observers. Following the guidance in this respect in Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure for sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, which provides that observers may attend meetings and participate in discussions without vote, the Council has, in practice, invited observers to speak after Council members have spoken on a particular point.

6. At the Council meeting on 16 May 1990, the Chairman recalled that in July 1984, the then Chairman had undertaken to proceed with informal consultations concerning procedures and conditions for considering requests for observer status and the rôle of observers in GATT meetings. Such consultations had been held from 1984 to 1986, but had not led to concrete results. Against this background, the Council agreed to the Chairman's suggestion that "the whole issue of the status of observers and the rights and obligations of observers be reviewed at the end of 1992" (C/M/241, item 1). Following such a review, the Council, at its meeting in July 1993 (C/M/265), adopted a Decision concerning observer status of governments in the Council (L/7286). At that meeting, the Council Chairman indicated that with regard to the observer status of international organizations in the Council and at sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, it was his understanding, on the basis of his consultations, that no further action was required at that stage.

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<sup>2</sup>Now the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

(iii) Observers at meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Council

7. With regard to observers at subsidiary bodies, the procedures followed by the Intersessional Committee, predecessor to the Council, provided for contracting parties not members of that Committee or of a working party established by it to be represented by observers at meetings of the Committee or working party. Those procedures did not deal with non-contracting party governments or with international organizations.

8. There is, however, a long-standing practice in the Council under which international organizations with observer status in the Council are invited to attend meetings of all subsidiary bodies as observers, except those of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration. In a few instances, organizations without Council observer status have been invited to attend meetings of subsidiary bodies because of a direct involvement in the subject matter under discussion. This practice has been followed, for example, with regard to the Customs Cooperation Council in the Committee on Tariff Concessions, and the UN Environmental Programme in the Group on Environmental Measures and International Trade.

9. Observer international organizations receive copies of the main GATT documents series (L/, C/, C/W/, etc.) and of documents relating to the subsidiary bodies which they attend as observers.

II. Arrangements for observer status in bodies established under certain arrangements negotiated under GATT auspices

(i) Councils and Committees established under the Tokyo Round Agreements

10. At their first meetings in 1980 and 1981, each of the Committees and Councils established under the Tokyo Round Agreements adopted similar procedures with respect to the participation of international organizations in their meetings. The procedures read, in each case, as follows: "The Committee may invite, as appropriate, international organizations to follow particular issues of the Committee in an observer capacity. In addition, requests from international organizations to follow particular issues within the Committee in an observer capacity shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Committee". Furthermore, "observers may participate in the discussions but decisions shall be taken only by Signatories" and "the Committee may deliberate on confidential matters in special restricted sessions."

11. The organizations that have been invited to attend meetings of these Committees and Councils are listed in Annex III D.

(ii) Textiles Committee

12. The Textiles Committee has not adopted any set of rules or drawn up any general criteria for the admission of observers. Any request for observer status is considered on a case-by-case basis, and a formal decision on the request is then taken by the Committee. A number of international organizations have been granted such status and attend meetings of the Committee (ILO, UNCTAD, IMF, World Bank, EFTA and OECD). The International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB) was granted observer status in December 1988.

### III. Arrangements for observer status of international organizations in the Uruguay Round

13. At its meeting on 3 July 1987, the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) adopted the following Decision<sup>3</sup> concerning attendance of international organizations in the proceedings of the Uruguay Round:

"1. In recognition of the fact that the attendance of international organizations could facilitate the attainment of the objective of strengthening the interrelationship between trade policies and other economic policies affecting trade and development, representatives of international organizations would be invited to attend formal meetings of negotiating bodies during the initial phase as indicated below. It is open to negotiating bodies to recommend the attendance of other international organizations. Since the negotiations are taking place among participants, the sole purpose of such attendance is to enable negotiating bodies to seek appropriate technical support in the field of expertise of these organizations, to complement the expertise primarily available from participants. This technical support might take the form of oral responses during the meetings to requests through the Chairman for factual information on and clarification of matters concerning the relevant instruments and activities of any such organization, and factual papers to be prepared at the request of the body.

2. It is understood that the rules on the confidentiality of the proceedings of the negotiating bodies will also apply to such representatives and that the content of discussions and documents would not be available for use outside international secretariats attending meetings.

3. It is also understood that support by invited international organizations would be given in a manner which does not affect the negotiating positions of participants and information obtained would be used only for the purpose indicated in paragraph 1 above.

4. It is also understood that, following normal practice, negotiating bodies may decide to hold closed meetings when they consider them necessary."

14. The Decision was accompanied by the following listing:

<u>Negotiating Group</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Organizations</u>
Group 1	Tariffs	CCC
Group 2	Non-Tariff Measures	CCC, UNCTAD
Group 3	Natural Resource-Based Products	None
Group 4	Textiles and Clothing	None
Group 5	Agriculture	FAO
Group 6	Tropical Products	FAO
Group 7	GATT Articles	IMF
Group 8	MTN Agreements and Arrangements	CCC when valuation code is discussed. ISO and IEC when TBT code is discussed.
Group 9	Safeguards	None
Group 10	Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	None
Group 11	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights including Trade in Counterfeit Goods	CCC, UNCTAD, WIPO
Group 12	Trade-Related Investment Measures	IBRD, IMF
Group 13	Dispute Settlement	None

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<sup>3</sup>MTN.TNC/3, Annex.

Group 14	Functioning of the GATT System	IBRD, IMF, UNCTAD
Surveillance Body		None
GNG		IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD
GNS		IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD
TNC		IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD

15. Following the restructuring of the Uruguay Round negotiating groups in April 1991, the question of participation of international organizations was again considered. At a TNC meeting in June 1991, the Chairman noted that the re-allocation of negotiating subjects in some of the new groups would mean that international organizations would either be invited to only parts of formal meetings of the relevant negotiating groups dealing with areas of specific concern to them, or to the entire meetings. For practical reasons, the latter course of action was agreed to. The list below indicates the international organizations invited to meetings of the individual negotiating groups in the new structure, in keeping with the basis of their participation in the former negotiating groups.<sup>4</sup>

<u>Negotiating Group</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Agriculture (ex NG 5)	FAO
Institutions (ex NG 13 and 14)	IBRD, IMF, UNCTAD
Market Access (ex NG 1, 2, 3 and 6)	CCC, FAO, IBRD, IMF, UNCTAD
Rule Making and TRIMS (ex NG 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12)	CCC, IBRD, IEC, IMF, ISO
Textiles and Clothing (ex NG 4)	None
TRIPS (ex NG 11)	CCC, UNCTAD, WIPO, UNESCO
Surveillance Body	None
Services	IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD
GNG	IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD
TNC	IBRD, IMF, UN, UNCTAD

16. The question of the participation of international organizations was also raised in the context of the preparations for the Marrakesh Ministerial meeting. It was agreed that the four organizations that had regularly attended meetings of the TNC, namely the UN, UNCTAD, IMF and the World Bank, as well as those that had participated in the earlier Negotiating Groups, namely the CCC, FAO, ISO, IEC, UNESCO and WIPO, would be invited. The Chairman said he proposed to respond positively to likely requests from various regional intergovernmental organizations to attend the Marrakesh Ministerial meeting as observers, and that such organizations would not, in principle, be invited to speak unless sufficient time was available, although they could, if they wished, circulate written statements for inclusion in the record.<sup>5</sup> The organizations he had in mind were regional economic intergovernmental organizations which had demonstrated a continuing interest in the work of the GATT and the Uruguay Round either through their observer status at GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES' sessions or meetings of the Council, or which had made useful technical contributions to the discussions among the participants throughout the negotiations. On this basis, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the European Free-Trade Association (EFTA), the Latin American Economic System

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<sup>4</sup>MTN.TNC/21, Annex, pages 5 and 6, and Corr.1.

<sup>5</sup>MTN.TNC/W/135.

(SELA), the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB) and the Arab Monetary Fund would be invited in response to their request or expressed interest, as also would the International Trade Centre (ITC).

17. The Chairman added that in order to maintain a balance between regions, the UN regional economic commissions, namely the Economic Commissions for Africa (ECA), for Europe (ECE), for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Economic and Social Commissions for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and for Western Asia (ESCWA), and regional development banks should be invited. As the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) had already been invited, one would also need to invite the African and Asian Development Banks. The Chairman's suggestions were agreed to.

18. On the basis of the above understandings, the following organizations were invited to the Marrakesh Ministerial meeting:

ACP Secretariat, African Development Bank, ALADI, Arab Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, CCC, EBRD, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, EFTA, ESCAP, ESCWA, FAO, IEC, ILO, IMF, Inter-American Development Bank, ISO, ITC, ITCB, OECD, OIC, SELA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, WIPO, World Bank, World Tourism Organization.

19. The degree of participation of international organizations in the Uruguay Round negotiations varied considerably according to which negotiating group they participated in. Some organizations made contributions in the form of technical briefs, e.g., in the negotiations on the functioning of the GATT system, others by association with various negotiating areas, such as in agriculture and sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Codex Alimentarius Commission, International Office of Epizootics and the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention), customs valuation (CCC), rules of origin (CCC), technical barriers to trade (ISO and IEC), TRIPS (WIPO and UNESCO), coherence in global economic policymaking (IMF and IBRD), balance of payments (IMF), and services (IMF, IBRD and UNCTAD). In most of these cases the provisions of the relevant WTO Agreements and arrangements reflect this situation.

20. As reflected in MTN.TNC/W/139, in the context of the Legal Rectification process conducted after 15 December 1993, consultations, in the presence of IMF representatives, were held with a view to resolving the issue which had arisen concerning the relationship between Article XV of the GATT 1947 and the General Interpretative Note to the Agreements in Annex 1A of the Final Act. Following these consultations, it was suggested that Ministers would approve a Declaration on the Relationship of the WTO with the IMF. This Declaration was eventually incorporated into the Final Act texts that were approved at Marrakesh.

#### IV. Other arrangements in respect of certain international organizations

##### A. General

21. The GATT Secretariat maintains numerous informal contacts with various international organizations on topics of common interest in order to ensure a mutually positive cooperative interaction, and to avoid duplication of activities. These contacts usually take the form of requests by an organization for another's expertise in its respective area of responsibility, and take place on an *ad hoc* basis. Such informal contacts include the exchange of information and research and working papers, consultation on relevant sections of reports or publications, participation in seminars or conferences organized to discuss trade policy issues, and so on. For example, the World Bank, OECD and the GATT Secretariat each developed a research programme to examine the implications of the trend towards regional

integration, each from its own perspective, and made the results available to other organizations to avoid duplication of activities.

22. In the area of trade statistics, the GATT Secretariat maintains a close working relationship with the UN Statistical Commission, and with a number of other bodies, including non-UN bodies, active in this field, focusing on the availability, quality, consistency and improvement of international trade data, as well as, more recently, along with the World Bank, on the dissemination thereof. In particular, the GATT acts as convener of the UN Statistical Commission's Task Force on International Trade Statistics, and is playing a very active rôle in the development of services statistics and of cooperative efforts to that end.

23. Several international organizations have contributed over several decades to the Trade Policy courses organized by the GATT Secretariat, including the IMF, World Bank, UNCTAD and the ITC. More recently, WIPO has also been invited to lecture to various groups of GATT trainees. Officials from various international commodity organizations have also occasionally provided an input to the courses. While the UNDP is no longer involved in the financing of GATT courses - which it did for several years - it continues to lend its assistance in the field with regard to the processing of material arrangements for the government officials selected to participate in the courses. This assistance by UNDP officials in the field has greatly facilitated GATT Secretariat dealings with the local authorities concerned, as well as with the candidates themselves in capitals.

24. The GATT Secretariat has regular contact with the secretariats of numerous regional or plurilateral economic or integration schemes. By way of illustration, mention might be made of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which invites the Director-General to attend meetings of the Council and of the Trade Committee, a plenary committee composed of officials responsible for the execution of their governments' trade policies. The Director-General has regularly attended meetings of the Council at Ministerial level. The GATT Secretariat has also been represented regularly at meetings of the Trade Committee, where GATT and EFTA are the only two observers invited, as well as at various other meetings on an *ad hoc* basis. Mention might also be made of other plurilateral bodies, such as the Latin American Economic System (SELA), with which contacts exist in the form of exchanges of information and participation in technical assistance events organized by the latter, and the ACP Secretariat, with which a joint seminar was organized in Brussels with high-level representation from the GATT Secretariat.

25. The following paragraphs describe more formal arrangements that exist between the GATT and the IMF, the World Bank, the United Nations, the Customs Cooperation Council and the International Organization for Standardization.

#### B. International Monetary Fund

26. The Fund is mentioned directly in Articles II:6(a), VII:4(a) and (c), XIV:1, 3 and 5(a), XV, and in Annex I in *Ad* Articles VIII:1, XII:4(b), XV:4 and XVI:B of the General Agreement. The formal relationship with the Fund derives from Article XV, "Exchange Arrangements", whose first paragraph provides that: "The CONTRACTING PARTIES shall seek co-operation with the International Monetary Fund to the end that the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Fund may pursue a co-ordinated policy with regard to exchange questions within the jurisdiction of the Fund and questions of quantitative restrictions and other trade measures within the jurisdiction of the CONTRACTING PARTIES."

27. The operational relationship of GATT with the Fund derives primarily from the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article XV, which states that: "In all cases in which the CONTRACTING PARTIES are called upon to consider or deal with problems concerning monetary reserves, balances of payments or foreign exchange arrangements, they shall consult fully with the International Monetary Fund."

The CONTRACTING PARTIES are required to accept the Fund's findings on statistical and other facts relating to foreign exchange, monetary reserves and balances of payments; to accept the Fund's determination as to whether a contracting party's action in exchange matters is in accordance with the Articles of Agreement of the Fund or of a special exchange agreement between that contracting party and the CONTRACTING PARTIES; and to accept the Fund's determination as to what constitutes a serious decline, very low level, or reasonable rate of increase in a country's monetary reserves.

28. On the basis of paragraph 3 of Article XV, which provides that "the CONTRACTING PARTIES shall seek agreement with the Fund regarding procedures for consultation under paragraph 2 of this Article", a close and long-standing institutional relationship exists between GATT and the Fund. In 1948 and 1949, the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Fund agreed, by means of an exchange of letters, on arrangements for cooperation, consultation and coordination in the collection of information and the making of public announcements.<sup>6</sup> The current procedures and arrangements for consultations on balance-of-payments restrictions were set out in 1970 (BISD 18S/49). Pursuant to these procedures, the programme for the balance-of-payments consultations for each year is drawn up "in the light of the programme and progress of the consultations of the International Monetary Fund with the governments concerned". A Fund representative takes part in all meetings of the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions (the BOP Committee), and in the case of full consultations with a contracting party, delivers a statement which has been approved by the Fund's Executive Board. The Fund also supplies confidential material for the consultations, particularly through "Recent Economic Developments" papers resulting from IMF missions to consulting countries. These papers are circulated to members of the BOP Committee.

29. In 1954-55, a number of recommendations concerning relations between the GATT and the IMF were made by the Sub-Group on GATT/Fund Relations established by the Review Working Party on Quantitative Restrictions. The lack of reciprocal consultation provisions on the part of the Fund, comparable to those of the GATT in Article XV, was noted, and the Sub-Group recommended,<sup>7</sup> *inter alia*, that "The CONTRACTING PARTIES should draw the attention of the Fund to their intention to have the GATT staff ... discuss with the Fund staff trade matters which had implications for exchange policy, and should inform the Fund that the GATT staff should be prepared, at the request of the Fund, to enter into similar discussions ... on the trade effects of exchange matters under Fund consideration ... The Executive Secretary should be requested to pursue consultations with representatives of the Fund with a view to preparing a formal agreement between the Fund and the proposed Organization [for Trade Co-operation] for consideration by both parties at a suitable future date." The proposal for a formal agreement between the two organizations was, however, set aside at the tenth Session pending the entry into force of the OTC, which never occurred.

30. In 1975 and 1976, the Consultative Group of Eighteen devoted attention to the functioning of the GATT provisions concerning trade measures taken for balance-of-payments purposes. At a meeting in June 1976, a representative of the Managing Director of the IMF gave an account of Fund policies and activities with regard to the use of trade measures by member countries facing balance-of-payments difficulties. The Director-General subsequently discussed with the Managing Director, at the Group's request, specific ways in which co-ordination and the exchange of information between the two organizations might be reinforced.

31. As noted in Annex III A-E, the Fund is represented as an observer at meetings of almost all main GATT bodies, including Sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and meetings of the Council and of its subsidiary bodies, excepting those of the Budget Committee. For its part, GATT was for

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<sup>6</sup>Reproduced in Annex I, A-D.

<sup>7</sup>A fuller description of the recommendations is contained in Annex I E.



many years regularly invited to observe the Annual Meetings of the Board of Governors of the Fund. More recently, no institutional observers have been invited to these meetings. The Director-General of GATT is invited to attend as an observer the meetings both of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund and the Development Committee - the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the Bank and Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries. In the case of the Development Committee, the Director-General has in recent years been regularly asked to inform members of developments in GATT and, until its conclusion, in the Uruguay Round.

32. A continuous working relationship is maintained between the executive heads and staff of the GATT Secretariat and IMF. Most documents of GATT are available to the Fund staff. For its part, the GATT Secretariat receives many unpublished reports and other documents of the Fund. Links also exist through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) (see below under the United Nations) which brings together the heads of agencies of the United Nations system, and through the various ACC sub-bodies. An example of co-operation between the two organizations is the study on the effects of fluctuations in exchange rates on international trade. This study was prepared by the Fund for the GATT Council, in response to a request, transmitted to the IMF's Managing Director by the Director-General, from the 1982 Ministerial Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

#### C. World Bank

33. The basis for co-operation with the World Bank exists not only through the kind of informal relations maintained with many organizations, and especially those of the United Nations system, but also through Part IV of the General Agreement. Paragraphs 6 and 7 of Article XXXVI state the need for collaboration between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and, respectively, "the international lending agencies" and "the organs and agencies of the United Nations system". Paragraphs 2(b) and (c) of Article XXXVIII ("Joint Action") provide that the CONTRACTING PARTIES shall "seek appropriate collaboration in matters of trade and development policy with the United Nations and its organs and agencies" and with a view to promoting export potential and access to markets for developing countries shall "seek appropriate collaboration with governments and international organizations, and in particular with organizations having competence in relation to financial assistance for economic development".

34. As indicated in Annex III A-E, the World Bank is represented as an observer at a number of GATT bodies, including Sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and meetings of the Council and of its subsidiary bodies, excepting those of the Budget Committee. The situation as regards GATT representation at the Annual Meetings of the Board of Governors of the Bank is the same as exists for the Board of Governors of the Fund (see paragraph 31 above). As noted in paragraph 31, the Director-General of GATT is regularly invited to attend the meetings of the Bank-Fund Development Committee, and to keep its members informed of developments in GATT and, previously, in the Uruguay Round.

35. The relationships between the executive heads and staff of the Bank and GATT Secretariat are similar to those described in paragraph 32 in respect of the IMF. There are direct working relations between the two organizations and also numerous links through the ACC machinery, including well-established arrangements for exchange of official documents, cooperation in the joint development of software and other efforts in the informatics area, the exchange of data and other factual information in the preparation of reviews under the Trade Policy Review Mechanism and, more recently, an instance of substantive cooperation in the conduct of a technical assistance programme for a developing African country.

D. The United Nations

36. The existing relationship between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the United Nations (UN), under which GATT is treated as a specialized agency on a *de facto* basis, is defined in an exchange of letters<sup>8</sup> between the UN Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary (now Director-General) of the GATT in 1952, confirming that the existing close *de facto* working arrangements between the ICITO Secretariat and the UN made it unnecessary to have a special or formal arrangement relating to the General Agreement.

37. The GATT has not concluded a specialized agency agreement with the UN, nor has it been brought into any other formal arrangement with that organization. The *de facto* treatment of GATT as a specialized agency involves participation in the common system (calling for the development of a single unified international civil service through the application of common personnel standards, methods and arrangements), membership of its executive head in the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), and entitlement to all the rights accorded to agencies under the relationship agreements, namely exchange of information and documents, reciprocal representation at meetings and coordination activities, as well as participation in inter-agency bodies.<sup>9</sup>

38. In 1967, in an effort to avoid duplication of efforts, the Executive Heads of GATT and UNCTAD decided to recommend to their legislative organs that the International Trade Centre (ITC) be established as a joint subsidiary body of the GATT and the UN, the latter acting through UNCTAD. As a result, effective from 1 January 1968, the ITC has been operated jointly by the two organizations "on a continuing basis and in equal partnership". In 1973, the ITC was recognized as "the focal point for technical assistance and cooperation activities in the export promotion field within the UN system" by the UN Economic and Social Council. In January 1984, the ITC became an executing agency of the UNDP. Pursuant to arrangements agreed to between the two organizations, the GATT Council and the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board determine the broad policy guidelines of ITC programmes, and both GATT and UNCTAD contribute equally to the ITC's regular budget.

39. In addition to the formal arrangements between the GATT and UNCTAD through their joint sponsorship of the ITC, the GATT has a regular and broad relationship with UNCTAD including through its observer status in UNCTAD meetings, diverse forms of *ad hoc* cooperative efforts on technical assistance and exchanges of information. The GATT Secretariat is invited to meetings of the UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, including its three Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Working Groups, and has closely followed the work of UNCTAD in such areas as international commodity agreements, tariff preferences, restrictive business practices, economic cooperation among developing countries, environment, and trade facilitation. For its part, the UNCTAD, as indicated in Annex III A-E, is invited as an observer to meetings of all the main GATT bodies.

40. The GATT Secretariat also has working relationships at the staff level with other UN bodies, notably the UNEP and WIPO, and has developed close high-level contacts, including frequent participation in various events with the UN Economic Commission for Africa, and has similar long-standing relations with the other UN regional economic commissions.

41. The GATT Director-General is a member of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) composed of elected executive heads of the specialized agencies and chaired by the UN

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<sup>8</sup>See Annex II.

<sup>9</sup>The special *de facto* treatment of GATT as a specialized agency was put into question by the ECOSOC during its annual session in 1974 under an item on "Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system", but was reconfirmed in 1976.

Secretary-General, in which UN programmes also participate. The ACC reviews issues of common interest and ensures the coordination of the programmes entrusted to agencies and approved by their Governing Bodies. The GATT Secretariat also participates in the subsidiary bodies of the ACC such as the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities, the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ), the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions, and the Organizational Committee, which meets ahead of the regular meetings of the ACC, prepares its agenda and work programme, oversees the work of its subsidiary bodies, and is empowered to approve certain actions on behalf of the ACC.

42. The GATT Secretariat is represented occasionally at sessions of the General Assembly, in particular as regards the Second Committee (Economic and Financial), as well as at sessions of the ECOSOC. ECOSOC's three-day high-level (Ministerial) segment, including a one-day policy dialogue with executive heads of multilateral financial and trade institutions, is attended either by the Director-General or by one of his deputies.

43. The GATT Secretariat is also invited to attend meetings, and participates in the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (the latter reporting to the ACC), the Intergovernmental Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Inter-Agency Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications, the Information Systems Coordination Committee, the International Computing Centre (ICC), the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund and Board, and the UN Statistical Commission (see paragraph 22 above). The GATT Secretariat is an *ad hoc* member of the International Civil Service Commission, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly responsible for overseeing the common system of salaries and allowances. The Secretariat also participates on a cost-sharing basis in the International Computing Centre in Geneva, together with twenty other organizations; a GATT Secretariat official currently chairs the ICC Management Committee. The Secretariat maintains close cooperation in the field of language services, terminology, documentation and publications with the UN and its specialized agencies.

E. Customs Cooperation Council (CCC)

44. The formal link between the GATT and the CCC derives from Article 18 of the Agreement on Implementation of Article VII (Customs Valuation Code), which establishes a Technical Committee under the auspices of the CCC to carry out responsibilities described in Annex II of the Code. Also, pursuant to Article 20:4 of the Code, on dispute settlement, the Technical Committee is required to examine matters requiring technical consideration, upon request by the Customs Valuation Committee, and to report to the Committee in accordance with the procedures set out in that paragraph. The Code sets out the broad guidelines for cooperation and consultation between the Customs Valuation Committee and the Technical Committee. The Chairman of the Technical Committee or his designate, normally a representative of the CCC, is required to report on the work of the Technical Committee at each meeting of the Customs Valuation Committee. To facilitate this process, the CCC has been granted permanent observer status in the Committee. The Code also provides that the GATT Secretariat may attend meetings of the Technical Committee as an observer, at which it will report on the work undertaken at meetings of the Customs Valuation Committee. A representative from the GATT Secretariat also attends the annual meetings of the CCC Council as an observer.

45. Arrangements for cooperation between the CCC and GATT also exist in the area of tariffs. The work undertaken by the Harmonized System Committee, established under the auspices of the CCC, has a direct bearing on the work of the Committee on Tariff Concessions in GATT, essentially because the adoption of the HS nomenclature and its changes affect directly contracting parties' GATT schedules. The functions of the Harmonized System Committee include the preparation of concordance tables for the transposition of GATT schedules, the preparation of explanatory notes, classification

opinions, and recommendations which help to achieve uniformity in the interpretation and application of the Harmonized System. It also furnishes other information or guidance on its own initiative or on request, for example from the Committee on Tariff Concessions, concerning the classification of goods in the Harmonized System. The CCC Secretariat attends meetings of the Committee on Tariff Concessions in the capacity of an observer, while the GATT Secretariat is invited to attend meetings of the Harmonized System Committee in a similar capacity.

46. The nature of the arrangements has evolved over the years with the type of questions considered. For example, during the Tokyo Round negotiations, the Group on Non-Tariff Measures mandated the GATT Secretariat to prepare background notes, in cooperation with the CCC, on a number of issues, such as customs procedures, documentation and formalities, and consular formalities. Prior to the conclusion of the Tokyo Round, the GATT and the CCC Secretariats worked closely together on issues related to the definition of value for customs purposes (Brussels Definition of Value).

F. International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

47. The basis for cooperation between the GATT and the ISO derives from the recognition through the adoption of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) in the Tokyo Round, of the important contribution that international standards and certification systems can make to furthering the objectives of the GATT by improving the efficiency of production and facilitating the conduct of international trade, and therefore of the need to encourage the development of such international standards and certification systems. The GATT Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade has always placed great importance on the need to maintain a continuous dialogue between the GATT and the ISO on a variety of issues in order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the TBT Agreement. The ISO has been granted observer status in the Committee, and has contributed actively to its work. The ISO and the Committee have cooperated closely in the development of mutually consistent definitions for use in the TBT Agreement, as well as in the consensus-building process for an ISO/IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) Code of Good Practice for Standardization. The GATT Secretariat and ISO have regularly participated in joint seminars and conferences to provide technical assistance on the operation of the TBT Agreement.

Annex I

Arrangements for Co-operation, Consultations and Co-ordination between  
the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the  
International Monetary Fund

Pursuant to the provisions of Article XV of the General Agreement, the CONTRACTING PARTIES made the following arrangements with the International Monetary Fund for co-operation, consultation and co-ordination in the collection of information and making of public announcements. These arrangements were made by means of exchanges of letters between the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.

A. General Arrangement for Co-ordination and Consultation<sup>1</sup>

In view of the fact that the General Agreement is under only provisional rather than definitive application it has been agreed that an elaborate agreement to implement Article XV:3 is not necessary and that the following informal arrangement of an administrative character constitutes a satisfactory basis for consultation and co-operation between the Fund and the Contracting Parties:

- (i) The Fund agrees to co-operate with the Contracting Parties in carrying out the provisions of the General Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof and, in particular, to consult, at the request of the Contracting Parties, on matters as contemplated by the General Agreement.
- (ii) If such cases arise, the Chairman of the Contracting Parties will notify the Managing Director of the Fund of each particular instance in which the Contracting Parties desire consultation and will furnish the Fund with all information available which may assist the Fund in considering the question. Since various provisions of the General Agreement call for consultation between the Contracting Parties and the Fund, it might be necessary in particular cases to await a meeting of the Contracting Parties before formal consultation could be undertaken. However, the Contracting Parties have authorized their Chairman to initiate requests, either at the direction of the Contracting Parties or on the Chairman's own initiative if the Contracting Parties are not in session, for the Fund to consult with the Contracting Parties in accordance with the provisions of the General Agreement. (This arrangement should make it possible for the Fund to undertake with a minimum of delay such studies as may be necessary and should afford the Fund opportunity to become familiar with the subject-matter involved in advance of consultations with the Contracting Parties in particular cases.)
- (iii) The Fund may from time to time wish to request consultations with the Contracting Parties on matters of common interest, and, in such cases, the Contracting Parties will be prepared to consult upon such requests.
- (iv) Any request for consultation by either the Fund or the Contracting Parties shall be accompanied by available information which would contribute to the effectiveness of the consultation. In such cases, due regard shall be paid to the need to safeguard

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<sup>1</sup>Proposed by the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES by letter dated 9 September 1948, and agreed to by the Fund by letter dated 28 September 1948.

confidential information and to any special obligations of the Fund and the Contracting Parties in this respect.

- (v) The particular procedures in implementation of these arrangements can be worked out case by case until sufficient experience has been acquired on the basis of which more formal procedures can be developed if necessary.

B. Rules of Procedure for Direct Consultation between a Contracting Party and the Fund<sup>2</sup>

- (i) The following rules of procedure pertain to direct consultation between the Fund and an individual contracting party which is not a member of the Fund.
- (ii) Upon the application of a contracting party which is not a member of the Fund to consult with the Fund the Chairman of the Contracting Parties shall communicate such request to the Fund. The Fund will thereupon enter into direct consultation with the contracting party concerned. No information shall be released by the Chairman to the other contracting parties on the initiation of direct consultation.
- (iii) The subject-matter of the direct consultation is limited to problems relative to monetary reserves, balances of payments and foreign exchange arrangements. The consultation may concern the actual position of a contracting party or problems which may arise under specified future conditions.
- (iv) Direct consultation will take place as a rule at the principal office of the Fund. However, in exceptional circumstances it may be conducted at another place agreed upon between the contracting party and the Fund. The time of consultation shall be agreed upon directly between the contracting party and the Fund.
- (v) The representatives of the contracting party shall present to the Fund customary credentials.
- (vi) The contracting party shall supply the Fund with such information as is necessary for the consideration of the problems involved. The contracting party may designate certain material confidential and request the Fund not to divulge it without the consent of the contracting party.
- (vii) The Fund will prepare brief minutes on the direct consultation with the co-operation of the contracting party.
- (viii) The Contracting Parties' function pursuant to the General Agreement remains unaffected by the direct consultation of a contracting party with the Fund. Nor does the direct consultation affect the consultative procedure between the Contracting Parties and the Fund pursuant to the General Agreement. However, upon application of the contracting party which requested the direct consultation, the minutes and the other material used in the direct consultation may be released by the Fund to the Contracting Parties in order to be used in the course of the consultation between the contracting party and the Contracting Parties.

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<sup>2</sup>Proposed by the Fund by letter dated 27 February 1950 and agreed to by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by letter dated 22 May 1950.

- (ix) The Fund will inform the Chairman of the Contracting Parties regarding the termination of the direct consultation.

C. Co-ordination of Public Announcements relating to Consultations<sup>3</sup>

- (i) Having regard to the provisions of paragraph XII:4(e) of the General Agreement, public announcements relating to consultations under that article should be avoided whilst such consultations are in progress.
- (ii) Prior to any public announcement at the conclusion of any such consultation, the Contracting Parties and the International Monetary Fund should consult each other. Whilst such consultation should be such as to afford either party a reasonable opportunity to make known its views on any proposed announcement, it should not be such as unduly to delay any announcement which the Contracting Parties or the Fund consider requires to be made on a particular date.
- (iii) Such consultation shall relate to all public announcements, but it should be agreed that those of a routine character might be cleared by agreement between the Contracting Parties and the representatives of the Fund actually engaged in the consultation.

D. Collection of Information Required by Article XV:8<sup>4</sup>

Pursuant to a decision of the Contracting Parties at the Fourth Session, the Chairman has made the following arrangements of an administrative nature with the Fund aiming at avoiding duplication in the collection of statistics and ensuring the effective application of Article XV:8 of the General Agreement:

- (i) Those contracting parties not members of the Fund which are already supplying the Fund with information comparable in scope to that required by the provisions of Article XV:8 of the General Agreement should continue the present practice of supplying the Fund with such information. So long as this is continued no separate submission need be made to the Contracting Parties. The Fund will, on request, transmit to the Contracting Parties any such information thus received.
- (ii) As regards those contracting parties not members of the Fund which do not currently supply the Fund with such information and in cases in which the information supplied is considered to be insufficient, the Fund will indicate to the Contracting Parties the nature and scope of information which should be furnished by such contracting parties under Article XV:8 of the General Agreement. The Contracting Parties will, on the basis of the Fund's communication, advise the contracting parties concerned as to the information to be supplied. The contracting parties concerned should furnish such information to the Contracting Parties with the least possible delay through the secretariat at Geneva. A copy, or copies, of such information will, upon their receipt by the Contracting Parties, be forwarded to the Fund.

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<sup>3</sup>Proposed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by letter dated 2 June 1949 and agreed to by the Fund by letter dated 19 August 1949.

<sup>4</sup>Proposed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES by letter dated 9 February 1951 and agreed to by the Fund by letter dated 26 March 1951.

E. Arrangements recommended at the Ninth (Review) Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1954-1955

In 1954-55, the Review Working Party on Quantitative Restrictions set up a Special Sub-Group on GATT/Fund Relations. The Report of this Sub-Group noted that: "the CONTRACTING PARTIES had consulted with the Fund on all matters where consultation was required under Article XV of the General Agreement. It noted that the Articles of the Agreement of the Fund do not contain a comparable requirement for consultation, and also that Fund consultation with the CONTRACTING PARTIES on some exchange matters which might have important trade effects was often not appropriate or feasible for reasons of urgency or secrecy ... The group felt that in most cases it would be sufficient that co-ordination would take place between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Fund on a staff-to-staff basis. This would help not only to ensure that, in appropriate cases, the Fund staff, in preparing its reports to the Executive Directors, would take full account of any information brought to their attention by the GATT staff regarding the trade aspects of exchange measures but also to ensure that matters of concern to the CONTRACTING PARTIES were brought to the attention of the Executive Directors before they took their decisions."<sup>5</sup>

The Sub-Group recommended that:

- "(a) The CONTRACTING PARTIES should draw the attention of the Fund to their intention to have the GATT staff, in appropriate cases and where practicable, discuss with the Fund staff trade matters which had implications for exchange policy, and should inform the Fund that the GATT staff would be prepared, at the request of the Fund, to enter into similar discussions, where practicable, on the trade effects of exchange matters under Fund consideration.
- "(b) Pursuant to this intention, the Executive Secretary should be authorized to work out with the Fund procedures for ensuring the maximum practicable degree of cooperation between the two staffs on matters of mutual concern to the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Fund.
- "(c) The Intersessional Committee should be authorized to conduct such consultations with the Fund as might seem appropriate in furtherance of the objectives of paragraph 1 of Article XV.
- "(d) The CONTRACTING PARTIES should draw the attention of the International Monetary Fund to the new arrangements with respect to the Intersessional Committee, should explain that this would make consultation between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Fund easier and more expeditious than hitherto, and should express the hope that this should improve progressively the efficiency of consultation both ways between them.
- "(e) The Executive Secretary should be requested to pursue consultations with representatives of the Fund with a view to preparing a formal agreement between the Fund and the proposed Organization [for Trade Cooperation] for consideration by both parties at a suitable future date".<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>BISD 3S/170, 199.

<sup>6</sup>At the Review Session, agreement was reached on institutional arrangements including an Agreement Establishing the Organization for Trade Cooperation, but this agreement never entered into force.



These recommendations were drawn to the attention of the Fund by the Executive Secretary in April 1955. At the Tenth Session in November 1955, it was agreed that recommendation (e) would be set aside pending the entry into force of the Agreement Establishing the Organization for Trade Cooperation.<sup>7</sup> However, informal discussions between GATT and Fund staff did result in arrangements for the transmission to the Secretariat of IMF documentation, especially in connection with balance-of-payments consultations, which were noted and approved at the Eleventh Session in October 1956.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>SR.10/8.

<sup>8</sup>SR.11/3.

## Annex II

### Relationship between the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the United Nations

1. Article 86:1 of the Charter for the International Trade Organization (ITO) would have required that the ITO be brought into relationship with the United Nations (UN) through a specialized agency agreement with the Economic and Social Council under Article 63 of the UN Charter. At their Fifth and Sixth Sessions in 1950 and 1951, when it had become apparent that ratification of the ITO Charter would be postponed indefinitely, the CONTRACTING PARTIES discussed arrangements for continuing administration of the General Agreement. In 1952, the CONTRACTING PARTIES instructed the Executive Secretary (now the Director-General) to consult with the UN Secretary-General concerning relations between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the UN.<sup>1</sup> These consultations resulted in the following exchange of letters in August 1952 confirming that the existing close *de facto* working arrangements between the Secretariat of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO) and the UN made it unnecessary to have a special or formal arrangement relating to the General Agreement. This exchange defines the existing relationship between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the UN, under which the GATT is treated as a specialized agency on a *de facto* basis.

2. Letter dated 11 August 1952 from the Executive Secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade addressed to the UN Secretary-General

"I have the honour to refer to the conversations I have had with your representative pursuant to a recommendation of the Contracting Parties at their sixth session (GATT/CP.6/41) that I consult with you as to whether a clearly defined arrangement were desirable between the Contracting Parties and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate communications between the two bodies and to avoid unnecessary duplication of work.

The conclusion at which we have arrived as a result of these discussions is that it would not appear necessary at the present time to proceed to consider such formal arrangements, but that it would be desirable to give you formal advice of the relationship that has been in existence since 1948 between the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization whereby the Executive Secretary of the latter is also Executive Secretary to the Contracting Parties.

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Contracting Parties states that "the usual duties of a secretariat shall, by agreement with the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization, be performed by the Executive Secretary of the Interim Commission on a reimbursable basis". This rule derives from an arrangement made at the second session of the Contracting Parties that they would employ the services of the secretariat of the Interim Commission on a reimbursable basis. This arrangement was agreed to by the Interim Commission at the second session of its Executive Committee. Since 1 January 1951 the Contracting Parties have, under this arrangement, borne the entire cost of the Interim Commission secretariat.

It is the feeling of your representative and myself that the existence of this arrangement, coupled with the close *de facto* working arrangements which exist between the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Interim Commission, renders it unnecessary to make separate or formal agreements relating to the work of the General Agreement.

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<sup>1</sup>GATT/CP.6/41(mandate for consultations); G/16 (Report by the Executive Secretary on the consultations).

I shall be grateful if you will take note of the secretariat arrangements between the Interim Commission and the Contracting Parties as described in this letter.

(Signed) E. WYNDHAM WHITE  
Executive Secretary"

3. Letter dated 25 August 1952 addressed to the Executive Secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade addressed from the UN Secretary-General

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 11 August referring to the conversations you have had with my representatives pursuant to a recommendation of the Contracting Parties at their sixth session that you consult with me as to whether a clearly defined arrangement were desirable between the Contracting Parties and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate communications between the two bodies and to avoid unnecessary duplication of work. The conclusion we have arrived at as a result of these discussions is that it would not appear necessary at the present time to consider such formal arrangements, but that it would be desirable to give me formal advice of the relationship that has been in existence since 1948 between the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization whereby the Executive Secretary of the latter is also Executive Secretary to the Contracting Parties.

I note that rule 15 of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Contracting Parties states that "the usual duties of the secretariat shall, by agreement with the Interim Commission for [the] International Trade Organization, be performed by the Executive Secretary of the Interim Commission on a reimbursable basis"; and that this rule derives from an arrangement made at the second session of the Contracting Parties that they would employ the services of the secretariat of the Interim Commission on a reimbursable basis. I note that this arrangement was agreed to by the Interim Commission at the second session of its Executive Committee and that since 1 January 1951 the Contracting Parties have, under this arrangement, borne the entire cost of the Interim Commission secretariat.

I understand it is our common opinion that the existence of this arrangement, coupled with the close *de facto* working arrangements which exist between the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Interim Commission renders it unnecessary to make separate or formal agreements relating to the work of the General Agreement.

At the same time, I take note of the secretariat arrangements between the Interim Commission and the Contracting Parties as described in your letter.

(Signed) Trygve LIE  
Secretary-General"

4. The issue of relations with the UN was considered again during the drafting of the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Cooperation at the Ninth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1954-1955. On the question of specialized agency status, the Executive Secretary of GATT had stated that "the [General] Agreement is a treaty embodying specific rights and obligations on the parties to it in the field of commercial policy. In this respect it differs from those specialized agencies which operate under Charters providing for general cooperation and coordination in various fields but without creating treaty rights and obligations such as those provided for in GATT. If it could be argued that the effect of specialized agency status would in any way subject the decisions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to appeal, or even to the influence of an external body, then it would be necessary to carefully

consider entering into such status".<sup>2</sup> The Group that considered this matter "felt, indeed, that the CONTRACTING PARTIES might wish to adopt a somewhat more cautious attitude to the suggestion that the Organization aim at a specialized agency relationship".<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, the Agreement on the OTC permitted, but did not require, conclusion of a specialized agency agreement with the UN. As the Agreement never entered into force, no further action was taken in this regard. As a result, arrangements of a practical nature have developed over the years with the UN covering exchange of information and documents, reciprocal representation and coordination.

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<sup>2</sup>W.9/65 (Statement by the Executive Secretary regarding specialized agency status).

<sup>3</sup>W.9/100.

### Annex III

#### A. Observers at sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES

##### United Nations (UN)

###### UN bodies and specialized agencies:

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)  
Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)  
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
International Labour Office (ILO)  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
World Bank

##### Other organizations:

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group)  
Andean Group Secretariat  
Arab Monetary Fund  
Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)  
Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC)  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)  
Council of Europe  
Customs Cooperation Council (CCC)  
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)  
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)  
Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)  
Latin American Economic System (SELA)  
League of Arab States  
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)  
Organization of American States (OAS)  
Organization of the Islamic Conference  
Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA)  
West African Economic Community (CEAO)

#### B. Observers in the Council of Representatives and its subsidiary bodies<sup>1</sup>

##### United Nations (UN)

###### UN bodies and specialized agencies:

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)  
Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
World Bank

##### Other organizations:

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group)  
Andean Group Secretariat  
Arab Monetary Fund  
Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)  
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)  
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)  
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)  
Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)  
Latin American Economic System (SELA)  
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)  
Organization of American States (OAS)  
Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA)

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<sup>1</sup>In addition, the UNEP is invited to attend meetings of the Group on Environmental Measures and International Trade, and the CCC to meetings of the Committee on Tariff Concessions (see paragraph 8).

C. Observers in the Committee on Trade and DevelopmentUnited Nations (UN)UN bodies and specialized agencies:

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)  
 Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)  
 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)  
 Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)  
 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
 World Food Council (WFC)  
 International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
 World Bank

Other organizations:

Andean Group Secretariat  
 Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)  
 Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC)  
 Commonwealth Secretariat  
 Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)  
 European Free Trade Association (EFTA)  
 Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)  
 International Wheat Council (IWC)  
 Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)  
 Latin American Economic System (SELA)  
 Organization of American States (OAS)  
 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)  
 Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA)

D. Observers in the Tokyo Round Code Committees and Councils<sup>2</sup>

	ADP	SCM	LIC	AIR	TBT	VAL	GPR	Meat	Dairy
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)								X	X
Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)								X	X
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)								X	X
Customs Cooperation Council (CCC)						X			
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)					X				
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)					X				
International Office of Epizootics (IOE)					X				
Codex Alimentarius Commission					X				

<sup>2</sup>Respectively, the Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices (ADP); Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM); Import Licensing (LIC); Trade in Civil Aircraft (AIR); Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT); Customs Valuation (VAL); Government Procurement (GPR); and the International Meat and Dairy Councils.

E. Observers in the Textiles CommitteeUnited Nations (UN)UN bodies and specialized agencies:

International Labour Office (ILO)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

World Bank

Other organizations:

European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB)

F. Organizations without observer status in GATT that invite GATT to their meetings

The organizations listed below do not enjoy observer status in GATT bodies, in the Tokyo Round Code Committees, or in bodies established under certain arrangements under GATT auspices. They do, however, invite the GATT to their meetings. Attendance by the GATT Secretariat has varied considerably from one organization to another depending on the relevance of their work to that of the GATT.

UN programmes:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

UN specialized agencies:

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

World Tourism Organization

Commodity organizations:

International Sugar Organization (ISO)

International Coffee Organization (ICO)

International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)

International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC)

International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

International Jute Organization (IJO)

International Olive Oil Council (IOOC)

Regional organizations:

Central American Bank

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Other Organizations:

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)

International Textiles Manufacturers Federation (ITMF)

G. Synoptic table showing organizations with observer status in various GATT bodies, and those organizations which invite GATT to their meetings\*

		CPS	Cou- ncil	CTD	Reci- procal	ADP	SCM	LIC	AIR	TBT	VAL	GPR	Meat	Dairy
United Nations bodies and specialized agencies:														
UN	United Nations	X	X	X	X									
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	X	X	X	X									
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	X	X	X	X								X	X
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	X	X	X	X									
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	X	X	X	X									
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	X												
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	X	X	X	X								X	X
ILO	International Labour Office	X			X									
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
UNEP**	United Nations Environment Programme				X									
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	X			X									
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	X			X									
WFC	World Food Council			X										
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization	X	X	X	X									
IMF	International Monetary Fund	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
IBRD	World Bank	X	X		X									

\* Organizations that invite GATT to their meetings are indicated under the column "Reciprocal" .

\*\* Observer at a subsidiary body of the Council, i.e., Group on Environmental Measures and International Trade.



[illegible]