

GATT/AIR/241

30 JUNE 1961

SUBJECT: MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN COTTON TEXTILE PRODUCTS

AT ITS MEETING ON 16 JUNE, THE COUNCIL CONSIDERED A REQUEST BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A MEETING OF HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF COUNTRIES SUBSTANTIALLY INTERESTED IN THE IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF COTTON TEXTILE PRODUCTS SHOULD BE CONVENED IN THE LATTER PART OF JULY, "WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADE IN SUCH PRODUCTS, SO AS PROGRESSIVELY TO INCREASE THE EXPORT POSSIBILITIES OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES AND OF JAPAN, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME AVOIDING DISRUPTIVE CONDITIONS IN IMPORT MARKETS". THE MINUTE ON THE COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION OF THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED IN DOCUMENT C/M/7. THE COUNCIL CONCLUDED THAT A MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE COUNCIL'S CONCLUSION, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO CONVENE THE MEETING IN THE PALAIS DES NATIONS DURING THE WEEK COMMENCING 17-21 JULY BEGINNING AT 3 P.M. ON MONDAY, 17 JULY.

ON THE BASIS OF RECENT TRADE STATISTICS, I FEEL THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES WOULD BE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL MEETING:

AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	SWEDEN
AUSTRIA	PAKISTAN	UNITED KINGDOM
CANADA	PORTUGAL	UNITED STATES
INDIA	SPAIN	MEMBER STATES OF THE EEC

ACCORDINGLY, THESE GOVERNMENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE MEETING, TOGETHER WITH THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. IF ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT IT HAS A SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST IN THE TRADE WHICH WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION, EITHER AS IMPORTER OR EXPORTER, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF IT WOULD COMMUNICATE WITH ME.

I AM ALSO INVITING THE PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OEEC/OECD.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR A SMALL WORKING GROUP TO MAKE STATISTICAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

GOVERNMENTS ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE ME IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE