

GATT/AIR/366

29 NOVEMBER 1963

SUBJECT: MEETING OF THE SPECIAL GROUP ON TRADE IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS

AS INDICATED IN GATT/AIR/354, COMMITTEE III RECOMMENDED AT ITS RECENT MEETING THAT, FOLLOWING THE FAILURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS COCOA CONFERENCE TO COME UP WITH A SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT DURING THE RECENT NEGOTIATIONS, THE SPECIAL GROUP ON TRADE IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS SHOULD BE RECONVENED AT AN EARLY DATE TO SEEK SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS FACING THE COCOA INDUSTRY, IN SO FAR AS THEY COME WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE GATT. (L/2080, PARAGRAPH 9.)

IN VIEW OF THE HEAVY PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, AND FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH DELEGATIONS MAINLY INTERESTED IN THIS QUESTION, IT NOW APPEARS DESIRABLE TO HOLD THE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL GROUP SHORTLY PRIOR TO THE SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES IN FEBRUARY/MARCH 1964. IN ADDITION TO CONSIDERING WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN BY THE GROUP IN REGARD TO THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING TRADE IN COCOA THE GROUP MAY ALSO WISH TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO FURTHER STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN REGARD TO ANY OTHER MATTERS WITHIN ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE.

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL (L/2083), I PROPOSE THAT THE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL GROUP ON TRADE IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS BE HELD DURING THE PERIOD 17 TO 20 FEBRUARY STARTING ON 17 FEBRUARY AT 3.00 P.M., AT THE PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA.

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, AND ANY OTHER CONTRACTING PARTIES, ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS, AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS DESIRING TO BE REPRESENTED BY OBSERVERS, ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE ME BY 13 FEBRUARY OF THE NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

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SENT BY : Executive Secretary, GATT, Tel. address : GATT GENEVA

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