

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN THE NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS

Communications from Commonwealth Countries

The following communications have been received from the Governments
of:

Belize
Fiji
Papua New Guinea
St. Lucia
Solomon Islands

Belize

Appraised of proposal submitted to GATT which would in effect restrict participation of certain non-contracting parties in the New Round of negotiation especially those Commonwealth developing countries.

Grateful if attention be drawn to Ministers at Punta del Este of CARICOM'S interest in New Round of negotiations and in particular Belize's desire that no obstacle should be put in the way of full participation of CARICOM countries.

Fiji

Further MYLET 1401/3-3 of 25 August advising that Fiji unable to attend Ministerial level session at Uruguay, 15-19 September, we would like to register our interest in a New Round and request without commitment that no obstacle be put in the way of our participation in the negotiations.

Papua New Guinea

I wish to advise you that Papua New Guinea is interested in participating in the New Trade Round. However, the present draft declaration proposed by Colombia/Switzerland requesting Papua New Guinea to indicate before 31 October 1986, its intention to accede, is neither practical nor feasible.

St. Lucia

Been advised of proposal made by Switzerland/Colombia, members of the GATT, to debar non-contracting parties from participating in the forthcoming round of multilateral trade negotiations. St. Lucia interested in New Round. Strongly

opposed to proposal and urges that status quo be maintained pending further study and that no obstacle be put in the way of our participation.

Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands is interested in new GATT Round at this stage no commitment can be made but hope that no obstacle will be put in the way to our possible participation.