

institution, to facilitate policies and actions which enhance the complementarities that exist between them in order to improve the coherence of global economic policy making.

- (c) Third, the institutional reinforcement of the GATT would help it to improve its role in contributing towards such greater coherence in global economic policy making.

3. The package of decisions set out below covering surveillance of trade policies of contracting parties, greater involvement of Ministers of GATT affairs, and cooperation with the international monetary and financial institutions will help to maintain the role of GATT in global economic policy making, and provide a basis for further work by the Negotiating Group in the second half of the Uruguay Round.

Trade Policy Review Mechanism

4. Ministers recommend that the contracting parties establish a trade policy review mechanism, as follows:

A. Objectives

- (i) The purpose of the mechanism is to contribute to improved adherence by all contracting parties to GATT rules, disciplines and commitments, and hence to the smoother functioning of the multilateral trading system, by achieving greater transparency in, and understanding of, the trade policies and practices of contracting parties. Accordingly, the review mechanism will enable the regular collective appreciation and evaluation by the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the full range of individual contracting parties' trade policies and practices and their impact on the functioning of the multilateral trading system. It is not, however, intended to serve as a basis for the enforcement of specific GATT obligations or for dispute settlement procedures, or to impose new policy commitments on contracting parties.
- (ii) The assessment to be carried out under the review mechanism will, to the extent relevant, take place against the background of the wider economic and development needs, policies and objectives of the contracting party concerned, as well as of its external environment. However, the function of the review mechanism is to examine the impact of a contracting party's trade policies and practices on the multilateral trading system.