

12. Ministers should also agree that:

- (i) commitments to change policies will have to be the primary vehicle for reform;
- (ii) reductions in support will be achieved through implementing commitments to change policies;
- (iii) these commitments should be set out in schedules which will be negotiated, and apply to the transition period. They will be subjected to procedures necessary to ensure that their objectives are achieved.

Transitional Rules and Disciplines

13. The reduction of support and protection must be accompanied by complementary transitional rules to govern the reform period until the new GATT rules become fully operational.

14. Such transitional rules should be consistent with the long-term framework, be transparent, cover all trade distorting measures, and should lead to progressive reform.

IV FIRST STEPS TO LONG-TERM REFORM

15. According to OECD sources, in the heavily subsidizing countries assistance has nearly doubled in the 1980's, approaching 200 billion ECUs per year in 1984-86. This has greatly increased the level of distortions in this period. These governments should commit themselves to reduce the aggregate monetary level of output-based support by 10 percent in each of 1989 and 1990. This would constitute a downpayment for the long-term objectives and begin the process of multilateral reform.

16. Such other government which have similarly intensified distortions in their agriculture policies during this period, should contribute to the above target in a manner commensurate with their responsibility for distortion of world agricultural markets.

17. As a first step Ministers should agree, for all agricultural commodities, to an immediate freeze on support and subsidization which distort trade and not to introduce any trade restrictive or distorting measures not explicitly provided for in the GATT.