

ment, but noted that, in the light of the recent conclusion of the Kennedy Round, no new major initiatives for a multilateral and comprehensive move forward could reasonably be expected in the near future. Whilst, in the light of the foregoing, work undertaken at this time would be without commitment on the part of governments both as to its outcome and in particular as to any future negotiations, the Contracting Parties recognized that it was important to proceed to prepare for further advances, with full regard to the objectives and provisions of the General Agreement, within the Programme for Expansion of International Trade. Further, the Contracting Parties agreed that there was urgent need for additional positive measures for the expansion of trade and improvement of the trade position of developing countries

Future Work Programme

The Contracting Parties agreed on a future work programme, to be begun in December 1967, of which the main points were the following :

Industrial Products

A new Committee on Trade in Industrial Products will explore the opportunities for making further tariff reductions in this sector in the light of the Kennedy Round result, and will draw up an inventory of non-tariff barriers.

Agriculture

A new Agricultural Committee will explore further opportunities for progress in the agricultural field by means of positive solutions mutually acceptable to all Contracting Parties concerned; and, in urgent cases affecting world trade in specific products, it was agreed that consultation should take place immediately among the Contracting Parties concerned.

Trade of Developing Countries

(a) The Special Group on Tropical Products will examine problems in this field, including the incidence of revenue and other internal charges applied in importing countries.

(b) Expert panels may be established to examine quantitative restrictions maintained by developed Contracting Parties on industrial products of particular interest to developing countries with a view to their early removal.

(c) Consultations with developing countries on balance-of-payments problems will now give particular attention to solutions involving expanded export earnings.

(d) The Cotton Textiles Committee will invite importing countries to report on steps taken to facilitate adjustment in their domestic industry.

(e) The International Trade Centre will assist developing countries to