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1 August 1980
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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

COUNCIL
29 July 1980

MINUTES OF MEETING

At the Level of Heads of Delegations

Held in the Centre William Rappard
on 29 July 1980

Chairman: Mr. Erik Nettel (Austria)[1]

Subject: Terms of appointment of the new Director-General

The Chairman referred to the notice of 21 July 1980 by the Chairman of the Council, which had been sent to all contracting parties. He recalled that, in his capacity as Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, he had had consultations with individual contracting parties on the terms of appointment of Ambassador Dunkel as the new Director-General of GATT. On the basis of these consultations, he had sent, on 20 June 1980, a personal and confidential letter to all contracting parties, in which he set out the specific conditions for the contract of the new Director-General, which he understood were generally acceptable to contracting parties, as well as to Mr. Dunkel. In his letter he had also indicated that if no objections had been received within thirty days, he would submit the terms of the contract for official acceptance by the Council.

The Chairman confirmed that he had not received an indication of any objection within the prescribed time-limit and he had therefore requested that this matter be put on the agenda of the present meeting of the Council.

The Council adopted the terms of appointment of the new Director-General as set out in the letter of 20 June 1980 sent by the Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to all contracting parties.

The Chairman reminded representatives that with this meeting of the Council all formal procedures related to the appointment of Mr. Dunkel had not yet been exhausted. He recalled that it was the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization (ICITO) which had the legal personality which the General Agreement strictly speaking did not have, and it was this Commission which provided

[1] Mr. Nettel, Chairman of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, presided in place of the Chairman of the Council, Mr. G.O. Martinez (Argentina).

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the secretariat services to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. It was therefore quite clear that it was essential that the function of Executive Secretary of ICITO and that of Director-General of GATT be exercised by the same person. He mentioned that invitations addressed to the eighteen members of the Executive Committee of ICITO had been sent and that the Committee would meet on 4 August for the purpose of appointing Mr. Dunkel as successor to Mr. Long as Executive Secretary of ICITO.