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FOLLOWING PROVIDED AS BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE RECENT MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON ON RESERVE CREATION.

THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF FOUR JOINT MEETINGS BETWEEN DEPUTIES OF GROUP OF TEN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF INF WAS HELD AT THE FUND ON NOVEMBER 23-30, THEREBY COMMENCING SECOND STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON A CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE CREATION OF RESERVE ASSETS. THIS FIRST MEETING WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL, DEMON-STRATING SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE, THOROUGHNESS OF PREPARATION. AND A WIDE AREA OF AGREEMENT ON MANY POINTS.

MEETING PRIMARILY EXPLORATORY, WITH BOTH DEPUTIES AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS SPEAKING FREELY. TOPICS DISCUSSED INCLUDED AIMS

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OF RESERVE CREATION AND NEED FOR RESERVES, THE NATURE AND FORM OF A RESERVE ASSET, PROCEDURE FOR ALLOCATING RESERVES TO PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, AND USE AND ACCEPTANCE OF RESERVE ASSETS.

EXCELLENT PROGRESS MADE TOWARD CONSENSUS THAT AIM OF RESERVE CREATION IS TO ESTABLISH A SUPPLEMENT TO GOLD AND DOLLARS IN ORDER TO MEET A SHORTAGE IN GLOBAL NEEDS FOR RESERVES.

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF DISCUSSION WAS STRONG IMPRESSION MADE BY IMPRESSION DIRECTORS FROM NON-G-10 COUNTRIES THAT ALL MEMBERS OF IMF SHOULD RECEIVE THE SAME TYPE OF RESERVE ASSET AND PARTICIPATE ON EQUAL TERMS IN THE FINANCING, OPLIGATIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES. WAS ALSO GENERALLY FELT THAT A FORMULA FOR ALLOCATION OF RESERVES AMONG COUNTRIES COULD BE FOUND WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, PROBABLY ON THE BASIS OF IMF QUOTAS OR SOME VERY SIMILAR FORMULA.

EARLY IN THE SESSION FRENCH URGED THAT OTHER TOPICS AS ALTERNATIVES TO DELIBERATE RESERVE CREATION BE CONSIDERED BY THE JOINT MEETINGS. THIS CALL FOR A BROAD AND DIFFUSE AGENDA WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY EITHER DEPUTIES OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS. THERE WAS A CLEAR CONSENSUS TO PROCEED WITH SUBJECT OF RESERVE CREATION WITHOUT BEING DIVERTED.

NEXT JOINT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 25-26, 1967 IN LONDON. PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED HARMONIOUS COOPERATION BETWEEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AND DEPUTIES OF TEN ARE VERY GOOD. KATZENBACH

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