

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

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JAPAN - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Follow-up on the Panel report

Request for Consultations under Article XXII:1 by the United States

The following communication, dated 18 March 1991, sent by the Office of the United States Trade Representative in Geneva to the Permanent Mission of Japan, is circulated in accordance with paragraph C.3 of the CONTRACTING PARTIES' 1989 Decision on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (BISD 36S/62).

The United States hereby formally requests consultations under Article XXII of the General Agreement with respect to the status of implementation for all products covered by the report of the GATT panel on "Japan - Restrictions on Imports of Certain Agricultural Products" (BISD 35S at 163). This request is made pursuant to the 1958 "Procedures under Article XXII on Questions Affecting the Interests of a Number of Contracting Parties" (BISD 7S at 24).

I need not detail the reasons underlying this request for plurilateral Article XXII consultations. They already have been presented in our written communication of January 23, 1991, to the Council (L/6810), and in our statements to the GATT Council meetings on February 6 (C/M/247 at 14-16) and March 12. Rather than repeat what was said in the communication and Council statements, I incorporate them by reference into this request.

Since this request is made pursuant to the 1958 Procedures, I am sending copies to the Ambassadors of the Missions of Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, the European Communities, New Zealand, Thailand and Uruguay, all of whom supported the holding of plurilateral consultations under Article XXII in their statements at the March 12 meeting of the Council, and most of whom already, like the United States, have declared a substantial trade interest in the matter.

The United States requests that the above-requested plurilateral consultations under Article XXII be held in Geneva in early April at a mutually convenient time.

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*This document was previously issued as L/6832.

Under the terms of the 1989 "Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures" (BISD 36S at 61), which also applies in this proceeding, I look forward to a reply to our request within ten days.