

International Dairy Agreement

TERMINATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY AGREEMENT

Decision pursuant to Article VIII:3

The *Parties* to the International Dairy Agreement (the "Agreement"),

Noting that, according to Article VIII:3 of the Agreement, the duration of the Agreement shall be extended for a second three-year period after 31 December 1997 unless the International Dairy Council (the "IDC"), at least eighty days prior to 31 December 1997, decides otherwise;

Recalling that the limited membership in the Agreement, in particular the non-participation of some major dairy exporting countries, had made the operation of the minimum price provisions of the Agreement untenable, and that these provisions had been suspended by the IDC as of 18 October 1995 until 31 December 1997;

Considering that Parties wishing to discuss dairy trade related aspects are able to do so within the framework of the WTO Committee on Agriculture or the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures;

Recalling that Parties had, in their report to the Singapore Ministerial Conference in December 1996, expressed doubt about the continued usefulness of the Agreement in the light of the Uruguay Round results;

Recognizing the resource constraints faced by Governments and the WTO Secretariat;

Taking into account the availability of other sources of information for dairy trade statistics;

Hereby decide as follows:

- (a) the Agreement will not be extended for a further period of three years after 31 December 1997, and will be terminated as of 1 January 1998; and
- (b) to request, in accordance with Article X:9 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (the "WTO Agreement"), that the WTO Ministerial Conference delete the Agreement from Annex 4 of the WTO Agreement upon termination of the Agreement.