STATUS OF WORK IN PANELS

Note by the Director-General

Since the most recent report by the Director-General on the status of work in panels, presented to the Council on 9 March 1983 (C/M/166), the Panel on Quantitative Restrictions on Imports of Certain Products from Hong Kong has completed its work. The Council adopted its report on 12 July 1983.

The Panel on the Canadian Foreign Investment Review Act (FIRA) has also completed its work. The Council adopted its report on 7 February 1984.

There are currently six panels established by the Council, as follows:

1. European Economic Community - Subsidies on production of canned peaches, canned pears and raisins

   This Panel was established by the Council on 31 March 1982 at the request of the United States. The Council was informed of the Panel's composition and terms of reference on 30 June 1982. After a series of meetings, the Panel sent its report to the parties in December 1983. On 27 February 1984, the Panel met with the parties to discuss a communication submitted by one of them. It is hoped that the Panel's report will be circulated in the near future.

2. European Economic Community - Imports of citrus fruit and products

   This Panel was established by the Council on 2 November 1982 at the request of the United States. The Council was informed of the Panel's terms of reference on 26 May 1983 and of its composition on 12 July. This Panel has been holding a series of meetings, and has invited the parties and other interested delegations to be present at some of them. It is envisaged that a further meeting with the parties and other interested delegations will be held in mid-March.

3. Finland - Internal regulations having an effect on imports of certain parts for footwear

   This Panel was established by the Council on 2 November 1982 at the request of the European Communities. Terms of reference were agreed upon. The secretariat has not made a proposal on the composition of the Panel because it was informed that discussions between the parties are still continuing with the hope that a mutually satisfactory solution would make further steps in the Panel process unnecessary.
4. **United States - Manufacturing clause**

This Panel was established by the Council on 20 April 1983 at the request of the European Communities. The Council was informed of the Panel's composition and terms of reference on 12 July. The Panel informed the parties of the content of its report on 3 February 1984, and expects to report to the Council on 13 March.

5. **Japan - Measures on imports of leather**

This Panel was established by the Council on 20 April 1983 at the request of the United States. The Council was informed of the Panel's composition and terms of reference on 12 July. It is hoped that the Panel's report will be circulated in the near future.

6. **United States - Imports of sugar from Nicaragua**

This Panel was established by the Council on 12 July 1983 at the request of Nicaragua. The Council was informed of the Panel's composition and terms of reference on 3 October. The Panel informed the parties of the contents of its report on 16 February 1984, and expects to report to the Council on 13 March.

There are currently four panels established by Committees set up under MTN Agreements, as follows:

(a) **European Economic Community - Subsidies on exports of wheat flour**

This Panel was established by the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures on 14 December 1981 at the request of the United States. After a number of meetings the Panel presented its report (SCM/42) on 22 April 1983 to the Committee, where it is being considered.

(b) **European Economic Community - Subsidies on exports of pasta products**

This Panel was established by the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures on 7 April 1982 at the request of the United States. After a number of meetings the Panel presented its report (SCM/43) on 9-10 June 1983 to the Committee, where it is being considered.

(c) **United States - Subsidies on exports of wheat flour to Egypt**

This Panel was established by the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures on 18 May 1983 at the request of the European Economic Community. At present, consultations are being held on the terms of reference and composition of this Panel.
(d) European Economic Community - Value Added Tax and Threshold

This Panel was established by the Committee on Government Procurement on 23 February 1983 at the request of the United States. The Panel's report was sent to the signatories of the Government Procurement Code on 17 January 1984, and was considered by the Committee on 15 February. The Committee is to revert to this matter at its next meeting, to be held in the week of 9 April.