FINLAND - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF APPLES AND PEARS

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

The following communication, dated 13 September 1989, from the Office of the United States Trade Representative to the Permanent Mission of Finland, is circulated in accordance with paragraph C.3 of the CONTRACTING PARTIES' 1989 Decision on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (L/6489).

On instructions from my authorities, I wish to convey to you the request of the United States for consultations under Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade concerning the prohibition of imports of apples and pears maintained by Finland during a substantial part of the Northern Hemisphere harvest season.

The United States believes that these restrictions are in clear contravention of the obligations of Finland under the General Agreement, inter alia of Article XI, and nullify or impair benefits accruing to the United States thereunder.

As you know, our two governments have held consultations under Article XXII:1 on this matter. They have not produced a satisfactory adjustment of the matter. Accordingly, my authorities have decided to request consultations under Article XXIII:1.

We request consultations under Article XXIII:1 at your earliest convenience. Since experts from Washington will be in Geneva from 20-22 September, they suggest that we consult during this period. They would prefer to consult on 21 September, but could do so on either the 20th or 22nd if more convenient for your delegation.

*This document cancels and replaces DS5/1.