EEC - IMPORT REGIME FOR BANANAS

Communication from Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Venezuela

The following communication, dated 19 February 1993, has been received from the Permanent Missions of Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Venezuela and 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).

On behalf of the Governments of Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Venezuela, acting jointly and severally, each in the exercise of the rights accruing to it as a contracting party to the General Agreement, we request the European Community (EC) to hold consultations pursuant to Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade concerning the Regulation of the Council of the European Communities on the Common Organization of the Market in Bananas, adopted by the EC Agriculture Council at its session (No. 1641) held from 9 to 13 February 1993.

We consider that the decision on the common organization of the market in bananas is incompatible with the EC's obligations under the General Agreement, inter alia, those set forth in Articles I, II, VIII, XI, XIII, XXIV and Part IV of the General Agreement. The Decision in question further aggravates the conditions of access for our banana exports.

We request the EC to conduct consultations as rapidly as possible pursuant to the Decision of 12 April 1989 on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures. In accordance with paragraph C.3 of the above Decision, the Council will be notified immediately of this request.