A Status Report on the World Market for Bovine Meat was published by the GATT secretariat today, the first on this subject issued by GATT.

The report begins with an analysis of the international economic situation followed by a summary of the situation in and outlook for the world bovine meat market. The major part of the study gives comprehensive, detailed information on cattle numbers, slaughter levels, production, stocks, prices, consumption and trade on a country by country basis. The publication is based primarily on information given directly to GATT by bovine meat exporting and importing countries.

The report covers live bovine animals and bovine meat. It analyses the evolution of cattle numbers, slaughter rates, production, stocks, prices, consumption and trade in bovine animals and meat during 1980. Estimates are made for the second half of the year and for the year as a whole, as well as forecasts for 1981. A series of 13 tables at the end of the study break down the main statistics which form the base of the report.

The Arrangement Regarding Bovine Meat, one of the agreements resulting from the Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in GATT, entered into force on 1 January 1980. The International Meat Council, comprising the 21 participants in the Arrangement, was given the task of evaluating the status of, and outlook for, the world market in bovine animals and meat, on the basis of a report by the GATT secretariat. The Council has decided that these reports will be published once a year.


2 Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, European Economic Community (and its member states), Finland, Hungary, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United States, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.