Invocation of Article XXXV by Cuba

with respect to

Austria, Germany, Peru, Philippines and Turkey

The following memorandum, dated 21 April 1951, has been received from the Cuban Delegation to the Torquay Conference:

"In signing the documents which embody the results of the Torquay Conference, the Delegation of Cuba, on behalf of its Government, wishes to state the following:

1) Considering that no basis existed for an exchange of tariff concessions which could afford a reciprocally satisfactory commercial treatment, the Delegation of Cuba did not enter into negotiations with any of the new acceding Governments to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

2) Consequently, it wishes to invoke the provisions of Article XXXV, and from now it announces that tariff and trade relations in general of these new acceding Governments with Cuba, upon their becoming contracting parties, shall not be governed by the GATT provisions.

3) Notwithstanding the above, the Government of Cuba is aware that the reasons for its action might not be valid and applicable to other present contracting parties which have successfully concluded negotiations or are prepared to grant the most favoured nation treatment, and therefore, far from opposing the admission of these new countries into GATT, it is sympathetic to their accession.

With the understanding of what is stated under 2) above, the Delegation of Cuba votes in favor of the accession of each and every one of the new countries which now propose to accede to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade."