EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Increase of Quotas on 1 January 1960 and Reduction of Tariffs on 1 July 1960 by Member States of the Community and Arrangements for Certain Consultations

The following communication dated 1 December has been received from the Government of Italy:

"I have the honour to inform you that the Council of the European Economic Community at its meeting of 24 November in Strasbourg has decided to extend to the members of the CEEC, the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and countries which receive MFN treatment the benefits of quota increases and tariff reductions for the next stages of the application of the Rome Treaty, i.e. for the periods commencing on 1 January and 1 July 1960, as had already been done for the period beginning 1 January 1959.

The Community has further expressed its readiness:

1. to set up with other European States or groups of States a liaison committee especially charged with the task of examining, and of contributing to the solution of the major difficulties which could arise in their mutual trade and to give to the current multilateral tariff negotiations the widest possible scope by endeavouring to focus the application thereof on the most sensitive points of the Community trade with other European countries. The Community will act as a single entity within the Committee.

2. to enter into consultation with the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada for the purpose of putting into application an agreed economic policy and an international programme in favour of developing countries.

In taking the above-mentioned decisions the Community has confirmed once again by positive actions and through its generous initiative its determination to follow a liberal and fully non-discriminatory policy towards the European countries and third countries in general and is therefore justified in expecting to receive similar treatment from such countries.

The Community has further demonstrated its readiness to assume its share of responsibility towards developing countries and for the application at world level of an agreed economic policy.

1 See GATT/AIR/145
"Finally, the Community has suggested a concrete initiative in the form of the setting up of a liaison committee to take over and strengthen in future the economic cooperation with the other European members of the OEEC."