The following communication has been received from the United States mission.

President Ford has directed expedited trade adjustment assistance for United States mushroom growers and canners and their employees, Ambassador Frederick B. Dent, the President's Special Representative for Trade Negotiations announced on 17 May.

The President's action was determined by a 17 March 1976 United States International Trade Commission finding that imports of canned mushrooms are entering the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause or threat of serious injury to the domestic industry. The Commission selected adjustment assistance as the appropriate remedy.

The President's decision, as required under the Trade Act of 1974, calls for expeditious consideration by the Secretaries of Labour and Commerce of petitions filed for assistance by the mushroom industry, its workers, or impacted communities.

The Commission's investigation resulted from an import relief petition filed on 17 September 1975 by the Mushroom Canners Committee of the Pennsylvania Food Processors Association and the Mushroom Processors Tariff Committee.
The Commission reported that production and sales of domestically canned mushrooms have been rising, both reaching highs in the 1971-1972 marketing year. Production and sales dropped in 1972-1973 and 1973-1974, but by the 1974-1975 marketing year sales and production had revived. Throughout this period, prices for United States mushrooms for processing and for United States canned mushrooms fluctuated, the United States International Trade Commission reported. Presently they are rising.

Imports of canned mushrooms totalled 50 million pounds ($37.6 million) in 1974-1975. The Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) are the leading exporters to the United States.