The following communication, dated 1 July 1986, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities.

By its communication set out in L/5936/Add.2 the European Communities notified its intention of negotiating a new schedule of duties for the enlarged Community to replace Schedule XLV of Spain, Schedule XLIV of Portugal and Schedule LXXII and LXXII bis of the European Community of Ten. In this connection, contracting parties are informed that the basic tariff and statistical information necessary to undertake the procedures laid down in Article XXIV has been made available to the GATT secretariat. This information consists of:

(i) import statistics in value and quantities for the European Community of Ten, Spain and Portugal broken down by GATT country of origin for the years 1983 and 1984. Import statistics for 1985 are under preparation and will be forwarded to the GATT secretariat when complete;

(ii) a concordance table between the Common Custom Tariff of the European Community of Ten and the corresponding Spanish and Portuguese statistical codes and rates of duty.

In addition, it is our understanding that up-to-date and detailed information about the tariffs of the Community, Spain and Portugal is available in the secretariat for consultation by contracting parties. Much of this information is in any event already widely available in published form.

The European Communities are prepared to enter into negotiations or consultations provided for in Article XXIV:6. Any contracting party considering that it has an interest in these negotiations or consultations is requested to so indicate as soon as possible in conformity with the applicable procedures set forth in Article XXVIII. In that case the European Communities are prepared to provide additional information necessary for negotiations on a bilateral basis.