The following communication, dated 4 April 1986, has been received from the delegation of Cuba with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

1. Last December the President of the United States approved the Food Security Act of 1985, which in Section 902(c) specifies that, as from the quota year for sugar imports beginning after the 1985/86 quota year, the President shall not grant any cane or beet sugar import quota unless the authorities of the country concerned certify to the President that it does not import sugar produced in Cuba for re-export to the United States.

2. It must be pointed out that the reference to Cuba in the above-mentioned paragraph violates the principles and objectives underlying GATT and constitutes a breach of the obligations assumed by the United States as a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

3. This action, taken by a developed contracting party, not only harms the legitimate trade interests of a developing country but also disturbs its economic and social development.

4. The restrictions referred to by the Act constitute a threat against other contracting parties trading with Cuba and are part of the chain of aggressions against our country, designed to impede the normal development of Cuba's trade relations with other contracting parties.

5. It is still too early to weigh all the consequences of this measure for the Cuban economy. Therefore, our country reserves its rights under the General Agreement and the possibility of invoking its provisions at the appropriate time, to determine the injury which the measure is causing it.