JAPAN - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Recourse by the United States to Article XXIII:2

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 12 August 1986, has been received from the United States delegation, with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

The United States wishes to refer to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement, the matter of restrictions maintained by Japan on imports of the following twelve categories of agricultural products:

04.02 Milk and cream, preserved, concentrated or sweetened
04.04 Processed cheese
07.05 Dried leguminous vegetables
11.08 Starch and inulin
12.01 Groundnuts
16.02 Meat of bovine animals, prepared or preserved
17.02 Other sugars and syrups not containing added flavouring or colouring
20.05 Fruit purée and pastes
20.06 Fruit pulp and pineapple
20.07 Fruit and vegetable juices
21.04 Tomato ketchup and sauce
21.07 Food preparations n.e.s.

The United States believes that, as administered by the Government of Japan, these restrictions contravene, inter alia, the prohibition in Article XI against quantitative restrictions.

On 11 July 1983, and 8 and 9 September 1983, the United States and Japan engaged in consultations under Article XXIII:1 of the GATT regarding the United States complaint. These bilateral consultations have not resulted in a satisfactory adjustment of this matter. Therefore, the United States requests the Council of Representatives, at its meeting on 9 October 1986, to establish a panel to review this matter pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the GATT.