Recourse to Article XXIII:2 by the United States

The following communication dated 19 February 1987 has been received from the Permanent Representative of the United States with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties and that the matter be placed on the Agenda of the Council meeting scheduled for 4 March 1987.

The United States wishes to refer to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement, the matter of Canada's prohibition on the export of unprocessed herring and salmon. Canada currently maintains in effect regulations which prohibit the exportation or sale for export of unprocessed herring and pink and sockeye salmon. The United States considers that this prohibition contravenes Canada's obligations under the General Agreement, particularly the provisions of Article XI, and it nullifies or impairs benefits accruing to the United States.

On 3 September 1986, the United States and Canada engaged in bilateral consultations pursuant to Article XXIII:1 regarding this matter, but the consultations failed to result in a satisfactory resolution. Further bilateral discussions on 27 October 1986 also failed to resolve the matter. Therefore, the United States requests the Council of Representatives, at its meeting on 4 March 1987, to establish a panel to review this matter pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the GATT and to make such findings and recommendations as may be appropriate.