ESTONIA - REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS

The following communication, dated 29 May 1992, has been received by the Director-General from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Estonia, I have the honour to appeal to you with this petition to allow the Republic of Estonia to become an observer to GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES' sessions, meetings of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.

As Estonia is presently restructuring its economy, trade policy, legal structure, investment protection programme and banking system, we request observer status. By obtaining observer status, Estonia would have the opportunity to learn more about these areas, and would be able to foster the implementation of GATT's rules. This would allow the Republic of Estonia to request membership status at the earliest possible date.

During this time of restructuring and rebuilding our economy and legal structure, we hope to receive the support of GATT.