The following communication, dated 9 June 1992, has been received from the Prime Minister of Slovenia.

On behalf of the Slovenian Government, I wish to inform you that the Republic of Slovenia has acquired and holds full sovereignty in exercising her international trade as well as all other activities stipulated by the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the attached protocols.

I assure you of my country's determination and desire to assume and continue to exercise all obligations accepted also for the territory of the Republic of Slovenia by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the protocols attached to the General Agreement, and the Tokyo Round Agreements.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, I have the honour to express the wish of the Republic of Slovenia to become a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on the basis of Article XXXIII, in the same manner as that used in the case of Bangladesh, when the Article XXXIII was implemented suitably. Within the afore-mentioned procedure, and subject to the decisions of the international community and of the Brussels Conference on Yugoslavia, the possibility of the succession by the new States located on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, would be left open.

In conclusion, the Republic of Slovenia is willing as well as committed, to communicate to you and all relevant bodies of GATT all the information that may be required in connection with the Republic's foreign trade relations. I also take this opportunity to enclose some basic information.
INFORMATION
on the standpoints of the Republic of Slovenia concerning
accession to the GATT and performing all obligations so far
applied to the territory of the Republic of Slovenia

The Republic of Slovenia has established full sovereignty in the area of international trade relations as well as in other spheres, in line with its economic and political interests, on the basis of the clearly expressed will of the inhabitants of the Republic of Slovenia participating in the general referendum of 23 December 1990.

The Republic of Slovenia has acquired full sovereignty in the area of international trade relations by:

- establishing her own independent and sovereign customs authorities of the Republic of Slovenia,
- assuming all powers concerning international trade transactions and policies that she had transferred to the authorities and the government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and
- temporarily exercising the spirit of the fundamental Yugoslav legislation on foreign trade (the law on customs tariffs and the law on customs regulations) as the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia,
- establishing her own and independent monetary system, including her own independent and sovereign foreign exchange system, that has introduced a foreign exchange régime entirely based on market laws and with an inherent central rôle of a foreign exchange market. Passing her own and independent law on foreign exchange transactions and the law on international loans and credits, the Republic of Slovenia has abandoned all administrative regulations in the sphere of international trade, leaving it to the foreign exchange market.

The Republic of Slovenia wishes to assume and continue to exercise all obligations accepted also for the territory of the Republic of Slovenia by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the Protocols attached to the General Agreement, and the Tokyo Round Agreements concerning multilateral trade negotiations. At the same time we wish to express our belief and expectation that the signatories to GATT, realizing that the Republic of Slovenia has assumed and undertaken to exercise the duties and obligations emanating from GATT provisions, will grant the Republic of Slovenia all the rights and privileges stemming from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that they had so far granted to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including the territory of the Republic of Slovenia.

In line with the purpose of accepting and executing all duties and obligations relevant to the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, by declaring her full sovereignty, the Republic of Slovenia has not altered the spirit of the Yugoslav law on customs tariffs, the law on international trade, and the law on customs regulations; the Republic of Slovenia has
only undertaken to exercise all powers in this sphere. Furthermore, the Republic of Slovenia is determined to respect and exercise all duties and obligations that have so far not been fully and adequately met by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The Republic of Slovenia has thus already abolished regional approvals on import of goods that were inconsistent with the GATT rules; it is undertaking essentially to reduce the number of items subject to obligation of quotas (in the year 1992, the Republic of Slovenia reduced the number of items on quotas by 48 per cent, in comparison with the year 1991, when 12 per cent of all imported goods were subject to quotas; the quotas were retained for textile and agricultural products). In addition, inconsistent non-tariff charges on imports were suspended. The Republic of Slovenia must partially retain quotas due to the balance-of-payments difficulties which have accompanied the establishment of independence.