The following communication, dated 25 October 1954, has been received from the Government of the United States for transmission to the CONTRACTING PARTIES:

"On 12 October 1956 the United States Tariff Commission submitted a report to the President on its findings and recommendations in the 'escape clause' investigation with respect to groundfish fillets which are dutiable under United States tariff paragraph 717(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as modified pursuant to a tariff concession granted in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on 1 January 1948.

"Under the General Agreement, the duty is 1-7/8 cents per pound on an annual quota equal to whichever of the two following amounts is the larger: (1) 15 million pounds, or (2) 15 per cent of the average annual United States consumption of such fish fillets in the three preceding calendar years. Imports in excess of that quota are dutiable at 2-1/2 cents per pound, which is the rate of duty originally provided for all imports of groundfish fillets in paragraph 717(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930.

"The Tariff Commission unanimously found that, as a result in part of the customs treatment reflecting the GATT concession, groundfish fillets are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities, both actual and relative, as to cause serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly competitive products. The Commission also found that in order to remedy this serious injury, it is necessary that the duty on the imports that enter under the tariff quota be increased from 1-7/8 cents per pound to 2.8125 cents per pound, and that the duty on the imports that enter in excess of that quota be increased from 2-1/2 cents per pound to 3.75 cents per pound.

"The President's decision in this case is required within 60 days after the date on which the Commission submitted its report."

Any contracting party wishing to enter into consultations with the United States under the terms of Article XIX:2 should promptly contact the United States Government and notify the Executive Secretary.