The following communication has been received by the secretariat from the United Kingdom Government:

"I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the United Kingdom has opened negotiations with the Governments of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, in accordance with Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, for modification of their present commitments on fruit stocks of Malling varieties and on a group of plants known as Kentia palms.

"The commitments are recorded in Schedule XIX to the General Agreement as follows:-

"3 II(1) (v) (a) Fruit stocks of Malling varieties - 5%

"3. G.A.V. Trees and Shrubs, other than in flower - 10%}

Cocos weddeliana
Kentia Belmoreana (Howea Belmoreana)
Kentia Forsteriana (Howea Forsteriana)
Phoenix canariensis.

"Particulars of imports into the United Kingdom of fruit stocks of Malling varieties are as follows:-

U.K. IMPORTS BY VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>6,479</td>
<td>4,893</td>
<td>3,122</td>
<td>1,621</td>
<td>2,595</td>
<td>3,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1,732</td>
<td>2,012</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are no official statistics of imports into the United Kingdom of Kentia palms, but according to available information they amount to approximately £1,500 a year, all from Benelux countries.

"I have also to inform you that Her Majesty's Government has asked the Governments of the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, whether they would wish to pursue the discussions in London or elsewhere, but this has not yet been decided."