The following communication, dated 2 November, addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on the European Economic Community, has been received from the Chairman of the Interim Committee for the Common Market:

"I wish to apologise to you and to the members of the Committee for being unable to attend the opening meeting of the Committee on Monday. I am absolutely obliged to be in Brussels on that day.

"I would have liked to express to you once again the great interest which the Interim Committee for the Common Market and Euratom takes in the work over which you are presiding. It is particularly aware of the responsibilities of the European Economic Community, which is one of the largest markets in the world, in relation to the expansion of world trade. The objectives which the Treaty of Rome sets the Community in this matter are clearly defined in Article 110 of the Treaty; they coincide completely with the objectives of GATT.

"That is why the Interim Committee attaches great importance to the determination of the means for establishing effective and continuing co-operation between the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the European Economic Community. This part of your terms of reference must be carried out in the most practical manner, due account being taken of the rôle and the organization of the institutions of the Community. As soon as they have been established, these institutions, and in particular the European Commission (pursuant to Article 229 of the Treaty of Rome), will, of course, have to give attention to the organization of their relations with GATT so as to ensure close co-operation. In the meantime, the Interim Committee will do its utmost to meet the wishes of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. Your Committee will make a careful study of the matters on which the contracting parties have expressed concern in regard to the effects of the Treaty of Rome on their trade interests. As in the past, the Interim Committee will make available to the CONTRACTING PARTIES all the information which it has at its disposal. The only possible limitation in this respect arises from the fact that a certain number of matters are left for final decision by the institutions of the Community. The institutions of course remain free to exercise their responsibilities in the best interests of the matters under their control, subject to the international obligations undertaken by the Member States, and in particular those under GATT."
"I have no doubt that conscientious and objective consideration by your Committee will throw light on points which are still not clear to the contracting parties, and that this study will serve to convince the contracting parties, if this is still necessary, of the favourable effects that the establishment of the European Economic Community will have on world trade."