QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANHYDROUS MILK FAT/BUTTER OIL

The questionnaire below, referred to in airgram GATT/AIR/372 of 28 July, is being circulated to members of the Working Party in order to facilitate the work of its Expert Group which will meet on 19 October.

It is appreciated that some of the questions may not be applicable to all members of the Working Party. It is nevertheless hoped that all members will reply to the fullest extent possible.

Replies to the questionnaire should reach the secretariat as soon as possible and not later than 20 September, to enable it to circulate them to the members of the Working Party in sufficient time in advance of the meeting of the Expert Group.

I. Definition of products

1. Which names and standards are used to define the products (e.g. fat content, moisture); which are the products manufactured?

2. Which standards and qualities are required at exportation and/or importation?

II. Production and utilization

1. Which raw materials are used for the production of AMF/butter oil; does the end use determine the production method?

2. Is there a difference in the costs of the production and in the quality of the product according to the production method used?

3. Is AMF/butter oil produced regularly or only on special demand; quantities produced (latest three years); what is the annual production capacity?

4. For which purposes is AMF/butter oil produced, imported, exported (recombining, bakery, frying fats, ice cream)?
III. Marketing and trade

1. How is AMF/butter oil packaged for storage or transport; how is it transported and stored; does the end use of AMF/butter oil determine the type of packaging; how much are costs varying according to the packaging, storage and transport method used; how long can it be stored; does a longer storage demand special requirements as to the quality and packaging of the product?

2. Is AMF/butter oil traded on f.o.b. or c.i.f. basis; at which prices is it imported and/or exported; metric tonnage of exports and/or imports for latest three years (by origin or destination); what are the customs tariffs for AMF/butter oil; are quantitative restrictions used; consumer taxes?

3. Is AMF/butter oil sold by private traders or by official institutions; are exports subject to a minimum price?

IV. Substitution of AMF/butter oil

(a) By vegetable oils and animal fats

1. Which vegetable oils and animal fats replace AMF/butter oil and in relation to which uses does substitution occur; does the present trend indicate greater or smaller use of substitute products?

2. If substitutes of AMF/butter oil are used, does this have an impact on the price of the end product; is the substituted end product fully accepted by the consumer; are there any legal regulations as to the selling of substitute products?

(b) Substitution by butter

1. Is butter used as a substitute for AMF/butter oil; if so, for what purposes and under what conditions?

2. At which price is butter considered to become competitive with AMF/butter oil?