International Dairy Arrangement

COMMITTEE OF THE PROTOCOL REGARDING MILK FAT

Report to the International Dairy Products Council

1. In pursuance of Article VII:2(a) of the Arrangement and Rule 22 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee adopted the present report on its thirtieth session, held on 15 and 16 June 1987.

2. The Committee adopted the agenda proposed in airgram GATT/AIR/2429, as well as the report on its twenty-ninth session as amended (DPC/F/49).

3. The Committee reviewed the replies to the questionnaire and requested members which had not yet communicated information for the first quarter of 1987 to do so without delay. The Committee took note of the summary tables prepared by the secretariat.

4. The Committee took note of notifications presented by the EC (DPC/F/W/26/Add.2 and Add.3) in relation to the Decision adopted on 31 May 1985 (DPC/F/35), and the additional information furnished by the EC.

5. Regarding its Decision of 2 June 1987 (DPC/F/48), the Committee noted a statement by the Chairman (DPC/F/W/29), a statement by Australia (DPC/F/W/30) and statements by other participants concerning shipments made and expectations of other sales.

6. Members of the Committee exchanged information and views regarding the market situation for products covered by the Protocol. It was noted that international prices of butter remained low at or slightly above the minimum export price and that stocks, although declining, remained burdensome.

7. Concerns expressed earlier with regard to the observance of the minimum price for anhydrous milk fat were reiterated, and in this respect it was recalled that participants had undertaken to take the steps necessary to ensure that the minimum prices were observed and that efforts were further pursued to this effect.

8. The next sessions of the Committees will be held consecutively on 21 and 22 September 1987, subject to confirmation by the secretariat.

87-0971