The participants have agreed to provide information concerning their domestic policies and trade measures including bilateral and plurilateral commitments on the basis of Parts G and H of the Questionnaire (Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure). The documents containing replies to these parts of the Questionnaire are circulated under the symbol IMC/INV; they will be revised as and when changes are notified.

This set of documents constitutes the inventory of all measures affecting trade in bovine meat, including commitments resulting from bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations, which the Council has instructed the secretariat to draw up and keep up to date, under the provisions of Article III of the Agreement. (Note to Article III of the Arrangement and Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure.)

**Note:** This document has been revised in accordance with the three-year rule contained in Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure, and replaces all previous IMC/INV/14/... documents.
PART G

Part G.1 Information on domestic policies and trade measures

III. Measures at the frontier

In 1981, a 2 per cent charge was introduced on the value of exports of chilled and frozen meat and offals, to be in effect from 2 April 1981 until 28 February 1982. Nevertheless, this charge was eliminated on 5 August 1981.

With effect from 24 December 1981, coinciding with the introduction of a single exchange market in Argentina in place of the former dual exchange market (commercial and financial), a 10 per cent charge was introduced on the f.o.b. value of exports of chilled or frozen meat and offals.

At the end of October 1982, the rate of exchange applicable to meat exports was based on a combination of the two official exchange markets - commercial and financial - and at that time the "mix" was 80 per cent commercial and 20 per cent financial. In addition, charges were applied on the f.o.b. value of meat exports at the rate of 20 per cent for quarters (bone-in and bone-out) and 15 per cent for cuts (bone-in and bone-out). Processed, canned and cooked meats were exempt from the export charge.

With effect from 1 November 1982, the dual exchange market was eliminated and replaced by a single exchange market; the export charges already mentioned have remained in effect to date (20 March 1983).

As regards imports, until May 1982, and ad valorem customs duty at the rate of 23 per cent was applied to live bovine animals, and at the rate of 13 per cent for imports of fresh, chilled or frozen beef.

With effect from 5 May 1982 the import duty rate was reduced to 21 per cent for live animals and 12 per cent for beef.
PART H

Information on bilateral or plurilateral agreements in the field of bovine animals, meat and offals

Argentina has signed agreements with the following countries:

Israel

In October 1980 a bilateral agreement was signed between the National Meat Board of Argentina and the Ministry of Trade of Israel for the supply to the latter country of 8,750 tons of boneless forequarter cuts prepared in accordance with Kosher dietary laws, for shipment during the seven months between December 1980 and June 1981.

March 1982: New agreement for the supply of bovine meat to Israel in the three-year period June 1982 to May 1985. Under this agreement, Israel has undertaken to purchase in Argentina up to 18,000 tons each year of frozen forequarter beef cuts prepared in accordance with the Kosher dietary laws. In the period June 1982 to March 1983, 11,300 tons were exported under this agreement.

Egypt

March 1981: A contract for the supply to Egypt of frozen boneless beef was signed in March 1981 between the Supply Department of the Egyptian Government and the National Meat Board of the Argentine Republic.

The agreement, valid for three years as from 15 March 1981, with the option of two additional years, covers the following annual volumes:

- up to 32,000 tons of boneless frozen beef
- up to 4,000 tons of frozen beef livers.

In the first year of operation of the agreement (shipment period May 1981 to April 1982), a total volume of 52,000 tons of beef was supplied in two transactions: the first covered 32,000 tons in March 1981 and the second in respect of 20,000 tons in September 1981.

April 1982: Under the contract, a new sale was arranged of boneless frozen beef corresponding to the second year of operation of the agreement (shipment period began in May 1982) and covering a volume of 40,000 tons. In the period January-October 1982, 45,000 tons of boneless frozen beef were exported to Egypt under the contract.
"As a result of negotiations carried out by the Ministry of Trade and Maritime Interests, on Wednesday, 22 April 1981 the text of an Agreement was signed providing for the supply of beef by Argentina to the Soviet Union. The said document was signed for Argentina by the Argentine Ambassador to the USSR, and for the Soviet Union by the Minister for Foreign Trade.

It should be underlined that this Agreement is an intergovernmental instrument that will constitute the framework for purchase and sale operations in respect of meat that will be carried out, on the purchasing side, by the Soviet foreign trade authorities, and on the Argentine side, by the natural persons and corporate bodies authorized to export that product.

The Agreement, which covers a period of five years, will take effect as from 1981 and will remain in force until 31 December 1985 with the possibility of extension if the two governments so agree.

The quantities of meat to be furnished each year by our country will be between 60,000 and 100,000 tons (of boneless beef); this means that as a minimum, operations must be carried through covering the first of the volumes mentioned. As regards the possibility of reaching the quantity of 100,000 tons (boneless product weight), this will depend on USSR needs. An undertaking has been obtained to the effect that in such circumstances, and in conditions of equality with other competitors, the USSR will give priority to purchases of meat from our country.

The Agreement likewise provides for the possibility of exceeding the annual quantity of 100,000 tons if the two governments so agree.

The relevant operations will be carried out at the same prices as those prevailing in major international markets for the product.

Shipments will be spread regularly over the whole year in order to avoid any problems that might arise in the domestic market as a consequence of wide fluctuations in the USSR purchase programme.

Lastly, it should be noted that great importance is attached to the signature of this Agreement with the USSR because it implies assured regular supply, over a five-year period, of substantial volumes of beef. Taken in conjunction with the Agreement recently signed with Egypt, it will contribute to secure permanent markets for meat producers."

The minimum volume for the year 1982 was reached in the course of October.
Algeria

January 1982: Contracts between the National Meat Board and the Meat Purchasing Authority of the Algerian Government, providing for the supply of 4,000 tons of beef (frozen, bone-out) and 3,000 tons of ovine meat (frozen, bone-in) in the period February to May 1982.

In May 1982 a second contract was signed between the National Meat Board and the Meat Purchasing Authority of the Algerian Government, providing for the supply of 6,500 tons of beef (frozen, bone-out), shipments to begin in August 1982. The first contract was executed in the period February to May 1982.