At its meeting on 20 December 1976, Group "Agriculture" agreed that delegations having participated in consultations should endeavour, in advance of the next meeting, to send to the secretariat summary notes with respect to the consultations in which they had participated. The secretariat would assemble and distribute the summaries in order to facilitate the decision concerning the further work of the Group.

In accordance with this procedure, the European Communities have sent the secretariat the following notes.

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN EEC AND BRAZIL

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 22 October 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Brazil on the subject of the notifications sent by each of the two delegations to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.

2. Notification by Brazil in regard to the EEC

The consultations enabled the situation to be clarified in regard to the measures actually applied in the EEC and in certain member countries in respect of the products covered by the notification.
3. Notification by the EEC in regard to Brazil

The consultation was mainly concerned with the export policy applied by Brazil and in particular the "bi-level pricing" system. The Community also pointed out that very few agricultural products are bound in the Brazilian tariff, whereas 90 per cent of EEC imports from Brazil are covered by bound tariffs.

The problem of the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures was also raised.

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN EEC AND CANADA

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 9 November 1976 and 9 February 1977 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Canada on the subject of the notifications sent by each of the two delegations to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 November 1975.

2. Notification by Canada in regard to the EEC

The consultations enabled the EEC to pinpoint the measures notified by Canada concerning a number of problems. The discussions were useful and should help to clear up problems arising in the course of future negotiations.

The Canadian delegation indicated that in its view the goal in the MTN was security of access, which would be best guaranteed by the binding of tariffs and other import instruments.

The Canadian delegation was particularly interested in the tariff and statutory aspects in regard to a number of products.

3. Notification by the EEC in regard to Canada

The consultation had mainly to do with the policy of quantitative restrictions on certain products such as margarine, eggs and poultry; and the Canadian delegation gave replies to the questions asked.

The Community noted that in regard to tariff protection in Canada, it was not so much the level of the duties applied that hampered trade as the structure of the Canadian tariff, since Canada does not yet apply the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature.

Other problems raised included State trading in regard to certain alcoholic beverages and questions relating to phytosanitary measures and provisions governing labelling and protection of appellations of origin.
SUMMARY REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH COLOMBIA ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 21 October 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Colombia on the subject of the notifications sent by Colombia to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975. In the course of the consultations, the Community also indicated its interests vis-à-vis Colombia.

2. Notification by Colombia in regard to the Community

The notification relates to the measures applied by the EEC to imports of a very small number of products (natural honey, beans - other than for sowing; melons) of special interest for Colombia.

An exchange of views between the two delegations proved useful in clarifying the scope of the measures in question.

3. Interest expressed by the EEC

The Community indicated its interest in exports of a number of processed agricultural products and the importance it attaches to the possibility of bound duties being applied by Colombia to these products.

Colombia on its side announced its decision to allow a number of agricultural products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 to be imported duty free with a view to adapting its foreign trade to the principles of the General Agreement.

4. The exchanges of views were regarded as useful for the further work of Group "Agriculture".

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN EEC AND JAPAN

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 23 and 29 October and 7 December 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Japan on the subject of the notifications addressed by each of the two delegations to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.

2. Notification by Japan in regard to the Community

The notification related to measures, especially tariff measures, applicable to certain types of preserved fish and one type of preserved fruit.

With regard to quantitative restrictions, it transpired that no real discrimination is applied by the EEC member States in regard to Japan.
3. Notification by the Community in regard to Japan

The Community notified a number of tariff, fiscal and administrative measures and the system of licences and quantitative restrictions applied to imports of a series of products affecting or likely to affect trade.

The Japanese delegation gave interesting explanations and comments on most of the problems raised, enabling a sound assessment to be made of the situation in the various spheres. The question of sanitary and phytosanitary measures could not be examined in depth. An exchange of views, though not an exhaustive one, was also held on the problems of standards and the application of international arrangements or agreements on the subject.

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN THE EEC AND MEXICO

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 22 October 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Mexico on the subject of the notification sent by Mexico to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975. In the course of the consultations, the Community also explained its interests vis-à-vis Mexico.

2. Notification by Mexico in regard to the Community

The measures notified in regard to certain member States, as for example customs and administrative procedures, do not seem to call for comments of any kind because of their generic nature. This also applies to sanitary and phytosanitary regulations.

On the other hand, note was taken of the accuracy of the tariff information concerning the régime governing imports into EEC of a number of agricultural products such as fresh or preserved fruit and vegetables.

3. Interest expressed by EEC

The Community intimated that it would like to see Mexico undertake commitments during the negotiations in respect of its tariff, with a view to improving the prospects for imports, especially in regard to certain processed agricultural products.

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN EEC AND NEW ZEALAND

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 10 November 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and New Zealand on the subject of the negotiations sent by each of the two delegations to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.
2. Notification by New Zealand in regard to the Community

The notification was concerned exclusively with quantitative restrictions and charges on mutton and lamb imported into certain Community countries.

New Zealand recognized, however, that the existence of the measures in question had not affected exports to the EEC countries, which account for 80 per cent of its exports of mutton and lamb.

3. Notification by EEC in regard to New Zealand

The Community notified a number of measures applied to imports of the agricultural products in question from New Zealand, and especially, quantitative restrictions and quite stringent sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

New Zealand recognized that the measures in question did exist and stated its willingness in certain cases to negotiate them in the course of the multilateral trade negotiations.

SUMMARY REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS BETWEEN THE EEC AND SOUTH AFRICA

1. Scope of the consultations

Following the notifications sent to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975 (MTN/AG/W/4), consultations were held on 5 November 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and South Africa.

2. Notification by South Africa in regard to the Community

The notifications by South Africa in regard to the European Economic Community and its member States are included in document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.8.

They cover tariff and non-tariff measures concerning, in particular, certain fish products (fresh and preserved), certain fruit and vegetables (fresh and preserved), and certain fruit juices and types of wine.

The consultations enabled the situation to be clarified in regard to the measures actually applied by the Community and its member States to these products. The Community explained, among other things, the functioning of certain mechanisms for the application of the measures notified and gave its reasons justifying them while correcting notification errors.
3. Notification by the Community in regard to South Africa

The notifications by the Community concerning South Africa are included in document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5.

They deal with such non-tariff measures as export measures, standards, packaging and labelling regulations, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and with quantitative restrictions and the existence of State trading for certain products.

In the course of the consultations, the Community stressed the major rôle played by South Africa as an exporter of certain types of agricultural products on the world market and the responsibility arising therefrom for the expansion of international agricultural trade.

The Community voiced its concern, among other things, for the following:

- certain practices (and particularly the effects of these practices on exports) followed by marketing boards;
- prohibitive sanitary and phytosanitary measures; and
- quantitative restrictions on imports.

The exchanges of views were regarded by the two delegations as very useful for the further work of Group "Agriculture".

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATIONS BETWEEN THE EEC AND THAILAND

1. Scope of the consultations

Consultations were held on 21 October 1976 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and Thailand on the subject of the notifications sent by Thailand to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975. In the course of the consultations, the Community likewise explained its interests vis-à-vis Thailand.

2. Notification by Thailand in regard to the Community

The consultations enabled the EEC to clarify the measures notified by Thailand concerning a fairly small number of products. It became apparent that an adequate degree of accuracy is desirable in the description of measures before any negotiations are embarked upon in the future.

3. Interest expressed by the EEC

The Community intimated that it would like to see Thailand undertake commitments in regard to its tariff in the course of the coming negotiations with a view to improvements in the treatment of certain processed agricultural products of export interest to the EEC.
1. Scope of the consultations

Following the notifications sent to the GATT secretariat under the procedure laid down by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975, consultations were held on 17 and 18 March 1977 at Geneva between the European Economic Community and the United States of America.

2. Notifications by the United States in regard to the Community

(i) Two series of notifications were submitted by the United States in respect of the European Economic Community and its member States. They are reproduced in documents MTN/AG/W/11/Add.10 and MTN/AG/W/11/Add.10/Suppl.1.

(ii) The consultations enabled the situation to be clarified in regard to the measures actually applied by the Community and its member States to certain agricultural products.

Among other things they made it possible to explain the functioning of certain mechanisms for the application of notified measures and to delimit their effects as obstacles to trade. They also made it possible to explain that some of the measures to which the notification referred were no longer applied or had been partially abolished (thus they no longer covered more than a few of the products of a single tariff line).

(iii) The Community noted that the list of notifications sent to it was not exhaustive and that other notifications might be sent to it in due course in respect of products of direct interest for the export trade of the United States.

3. Notification by the Community in regard to the United States

(i) The notifications submitted by the Community in regard to the United States, concerning both tariff and non-tariff measures affecting trade in agricultural products, are included in document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5 (pages 38 et seq.).

(ii) In the course of the consultations, the Community pointed out that the United States had a major rôle to play in the expansion of trade in agricultural products both as an importer and an exporter, and that a number of measures continued to be applied or were introduced in the United States in a manner not consistent with the provisions of GATT.

(iii) The Community voiced its concern, in particular, about:
- the maintenance of the waiver granted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 5 March 1955 in respect of certain agricultural products and the application of quantitative restrictions not covered by the waiver on important agricultural products;

- the level of tariffs on certain agricultural products in relation to the general level of tariffs applied;

- the existence of certain provisions of the Trade Act such as Sections 201-301 and 331 and the way in which they are used;

- the strict and sometimes unjustified application of sanitary or phyto-sanitary measures or labelling and packaging regulations;

- the application to spirits of the wine gallon/proof gallon method of assessment which has discriminatory effects in regard to imported products;

- export measures taken by the United States.

4. The exchanges of views following the statements on matters of concern to both sides were regarded by the two delegations as useful for the further work of Group "Agriculture".