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 a decision concerning the further work of the Group.

In accordance with this procedure, Poland has sent the secretariat the following note.

---

Summary Note by Poland on Consultations held with the European Economic Community Concerning Agricultural Notifications

1. Consultations were held on 19 November 1976 between Poland and the European Economic Community concerning notifications that the two delegations had sent to the GATT secretariat under the procedure established by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.

2. Notifications by Poland to the EEC (see document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.9)

Presenting the difficulties encountered by Poland for exports of certain agricultural products to the markets of the EEC member countries, the Polish delegation underlined that even a relative easing of those difficulties could have an essential influence on expansion of mutually advantageous trade.
Special emphasis was laid on the unjustified application, from the technological point of view, of the processing coefficient for bacon, which had caused a sharp contraction in Poland's traditional exports to Great Britain.

Similarly, it was underlined that contracts already concluded could not be executed because of the floating exchange rates of certain currencies in relation to the unit of account, and the need to respect sluice-gate prices.

Furthermore, growth of Poland's agricultural exports to the EEC member countries was adversely affected by the lack of information concerning regulation of the Community market for certain products of particular interest to Poland, including in particular cattle for slaughter and for fattening, and sheep.

A similar situation could be seen in the field of information concerning EEC intentions in regard to exports to Poland, in particular wheat, meat, etc.

3. Notifications by the EEC to Poland (see document MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5/Suppl.1)

The Community delegation underlined the lack of transparency in regard to:

- the decisions that determine Poland's import possibilities;
- aids that directly or indirectly influence Poland's exports;
- statistics on production, consumption and trade;
- the scope and content of certain trade agreements entered into by Poland.

In reply, the Polish delegation stated that:

- as regards import decisions, the Polish foreign trade enterprises act in the same manner as traders in market-economy countries; Polish enterprises intending to import make contact in the customary way with potential suppliers in the sector concerned;

- in reply to objections concerning subsidization of Polish exports, it was explained that there is a misunderstanding because the budgetary amounts mentioned by the Community representatives are designed to offset the difference between rising world prices (inflation) and domestic prices which for certain products are lower;
- regarding the problem of statistical information, the Polish delegation presented the "Foreign Trade Yearbook", underlining that its contents reflected the importance of the action that Poland had taken to meet the requests of GATT members in this respect. The attention of the EEC delegation was also drawn to the data contained in specialized publications, and also to examples of continuing information exchanges between scientific institutes. Most of these explanations were accepted by the Community delegation;

- as regards the publication of the contents of trade agreements, the Polish delegation explained that all trade agreements are published in the Official Gazette except in cases where the trade agreement is at the same time a contract, this being consistent with usual practice at international level.

4. The Polish delegation regards this consultation as preliminary and is ready to enter into a concrete dialogue, based on a constructive proposal by the EEC in the context of the work of Group "Agriculture", in respect of trade in agricultural products.