Report by Hungary on the consultations held with the European Economic Community on agricultural products

1. Consultations were held between Hungary and the EEC on 15 November 1976 under the procedure adopted by the two delegations at the meeting of group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975.

2. Notification by Hungary to the EEC - Doc. MTN/AG/W/11/Add.4/Rev.1

The notification by Hungary listed the tariff and non-tariff measures which the Hungarian agricultural export commodities, other than those belonging to the three product sub-groups of the GATT Multilateral Trade Negotiations, are subject to in the EEC market.

It was the wish of the Hungarian side to have consultations first of all on the reference (minimum) price system of the EEC, the financial assistance given to producers of fresh fruit and vegetables, the possibilities of access to the
EEC market for the Hungarian fruit and vegetable products, and some too strict stipulations applied by certain EEC member countries (Federal Republic of Germany).

The Hungarian side noted the explanation given by the EEC delegation on the above problems and stated that at the present stage of the consultation procedure, the EEC is not yet in a position to enter into negotiations on the merits of these issues.

3. Notification of the EEC in regard to Hungary - Doc. MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5/Suppl.1

The EEC delegation did not consider adequate the information on Hungarian agricultural imports, and statistics of production, consumption and trade, the information on prices, direct and indirect forms of assistance of exports, and on the position of certain agreements concluded by Hungary.

The Hungarian side took the opportunity to call repeatedly the attention of the EEC delegation to document MTN/AG/W/12 according to which the Hungarian delegation had handed over to the EEC a detailed list of the Hungarian official publications which contained information and detailed statistics concerning the Hungarian agricultural production and consumption.

It was possible for the Hungarian side to point out to what the protocol of Hungary's accession to the GATT contains about the Hungarian system of prices and State refunds, published as an official GATT document.

With regard to certain trade agreements concluded with Hungary, the Hungarian side expressed its readiness to present the texts of these agreements under the provisions of Article X of the General Agreement. At the same time it expresses the desire to obtain information about the texts of agreements concluded by the EEC, which are of interest to Hungary.

Although it was not possible to ascertain during the consultation which are the subjects which the EEC would wish to discuss in a concrete way in the course of the consultations in group "Agriculture" of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, it was found that the exchange of views was useful in helping to understand the situation better.