The following communication, dated 2 April 1992, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Australia with the request that it be circulated to signatories.

I refer to your letter of 9 March 1992 seeking bilateral consultations with Australia under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.

As you will be aware, Australia's legislation is already under examination in the Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Committee. Specific aspects of concern to the Community were discussed at the Committee's October 1991 meeting. I am conveying separately to the Chairman the further response which was foreshadowed by Australia at that time.

Australia notes that consultations have already been held with the EC in response to a request of 16 January 1992 for consultations under Articles 3 and 16 of the Code. Australia would be happy to consult further bilaterally with the EC in regard to investigations currently in progress covering glace fruits and canned tomatoes, and on the application of Australian anti-dumping and countervailing legislation in these cases.

Australia suggests that a convenient opportunity for such consultations would be in conjunction with the forthcoming regular meeting of the Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Committee. If you agree, a mutually convenient time and venue can be arranged between us.