The Chairman of the Group of Negotiations on Goods has received the following communication dated 25 November 1988 from the Chairman of the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products which is hereby transmitted to the Group of Negotiations on Goods. It will also be transmitted to the Trade Negotiations Committee meeting at Ministerial level in Montreal.

Dear Mr. Chairman,

With reference to Paragraph 4(ii) of the Report of the Group of Negotiations on Goods to the Trade Negotiations Committee (MTN.GNG/13, Page 2) I wish to inform you that I have carried out intensive consultations with a number of interested participants with a view to obtaining a set of early results for consideration and adoption by Ministers in Montreal in the area of Tropical Products. These early results constitute a set of contributions by a number of participants for early implementation and aimed towards achievement of the objective of fullest liberalization in trade in tropical products by the end of the round.

In the course of these informal consultations a number of proposed contributions have been tabled and negotiations have been carried out subject to the finalization of results at the Ministerial meeting in Montreal. A number of the participants in this exercise have completed their statements of contributions and are now in a position to submit these for consideration and acceptance by Ministers at the Mid-Term Review. Some other participants are not yet in a position to complete their statements and require more time for further consultations and negotiations. Other participants have not yet tabled possible contributions but may be in a position to do so by the meeting in Montreal.

Mr. Arthur Dunkel
Director-General
GATT
Chairman of the Group of Negotiations on Goods
In the light of this state of affairs it is my intention to pursue informal consultations until 4 December in Montreal when I shall submit to you my final report on these consultations together with any interim results that might have been achieved for consideration by Ministers.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgn.) Paul Leong Khee Seong
Chairman
Negotiating Group on Tropical Products