Mr. Chairman, the delegation of Peru wishes to express its gratitude to you for your particular dedication and efforts to move forward these difficult negotiations to shape an agreement on the definition of modalities, which, as our Ministers established at Punta del Este when launching the Uruguay Round, will finally enable the textiles and clothing sector to be integrated into GATT on the basis of strengthened GATT rules and disciplines.

Consequently, with reference to document MTN.GNG/NG4/W/62, dated 2 November 1990, submitted under your own responsibility, the delegation of Peru requests that the unintentional error contained in paragraph 1 of your introductory note be corrected as appropriate. In that note you refer to a draft text for "an agreement on textiles and clothing". We therefore request that the specific Punta del Este mandate I have just mentioned be indicated in that paragraph. We consider that at this stage in the negotiations the Chairman must not and cannot allow room for possible mistaken interpretations or doubts as to the clear objectives of these very delicate negotiations.

In addition, at this formal meeting of the Negotiating Group my delegation also wishes to recall that, as our Ministers also called upon us to do at the Montreal Mid-Term Review, Peru has taken specific and substantive measures to liberalize its foreign trade (see document MTN.GNG/NG4/W/58), which greatly benefit the exports of textiles and clothing of other participants. In so doing Peru has not only heeded the call addressed to participants to endeavour to improve the trade situation paving the way for the integration of the sector into GATT, but also amply contributed to the objective of fuller liberalization of international trade in textiles and clothing and the further strengthening of the GATT system.

However, with barely a month to go until the end of the Uruguay Round, Peru views with great concern the reticence of some participants to give specific content to the mandate received, as is made quite clear in the document you have prepared, Mr. Chairman.
Peru is a small exporter of textiles and clothing, but depends heavily on this particular industry for export earnings. It is also facing serious balance-of-payments problems. We are therefore also excessively concerned at the fact that in these negotiations there is an attempt to ignore the preferential treatment recognized by the multilateral rules of the Multifibre Arrangement and its Protocol of Extension. This treatment must not only be reiterated but also be included in an appropriate manner in the various articles of the agreement reached on the integration of textiles and clothing into GATT, since we are not renegotiating an agreement on the administration of restrictions on trade in textiles and clothing but on the contrary an agreement for the liberalization of that trade and its progressive integration into GATT.

The delegation of Peru thanks you for your attention, Mr. Chairman, and requests that this statement be included in the record of this formal meeting and furthermore that it be circulated as a green-stripe document to all participants.