The following communication, dated 6 May 1991, has been received from the delegation of Chile with the request that it be circulated to the participants of the Uruguay Round.

At the last meeting of the Uruguay Round group on access, Chile pointed out that document 562 (3) of 17 April 1991 did not take account of two very important liberalization measures adopted by Chile since June 1986, and which in fact made it eligible for the credit and recognition stipulated in the Montreal declaration of the Mid-Term Review.

At that meeting, you invited participating countries to send their comments on that document in writing, and accordingly I am explaining below the content of the liberalization measures adopted by Chile:

(a) On 5 January 1988, Chile reduced the tariffs on all goods from 20 per cent to 15 per cent.

(b) On 10 October 1989, the constitutional organic law of the Central Bank established freedom to export and import any goods; it stipulated that "no prior deposits shall be required for carrying out export and import operations, nor shall any quotas be fixed for them" (Article 88). Similarly, the law states that "any person may freely carry out international trade operations" (Article 39).

I should like to underline the fact that the Central Bank law is a "constitutional" organic law, thus making it virtually impossible for the Government of Chile to establish any quantitative or other restrictions on trade, and this certainly makes Chile one of the few contracting parties, if not the only one, that has raised Article XI:1 of the General Agreement to this legal status.