The following communication, dated 18 December 1991, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities.

The Chairman of the Rules and Disciplines Group, Ambassador Maciel, has asked me to confirm to you the position taken by the European Community this morning.

That position is as follows:

"The European Community intends no longer to apply to certain contracting parties - namely Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore - the provisions of Part IV of GATT in respect of the implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round, unless the Committee on Trade and Development provide a different answer to the question of eligibility of these countries for the status of less-developed contracting parties, in conformity with paragraph 4 of the Committee's terms of reference:

"To consider any questions which may arise as to the eligibility of a contracting party to be considered as a less-developed contracting party in the sense of Part IV and to report to the CONTRACTING PARTIES;"

Therefore, all concessions in the area of rules and disciplines made by the European Community so far, and those to be made, in the context of special and differential treatment are conditional upon the exclusion of the above countries from such treatment".

GATT SECRETARIAT
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