COMMUNICATION FROM SINGAPORE

The following communication, dated 20 December 1991, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Singapore, with the request that it be brought to the attention of the Uruguay Round participants.

Singapore is seriously concerned about the intention of the European Community not to apply the provisions of Part IV of GATT in respect of the implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round to certain contracting parties - namely Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore. It is an unilateral act and is intended to target against specific countries especially in the context of the ongoing Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations.

Moreover, by declaring now that "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" is obviously intended to improve its negotiating position, and to sow discord among the developing countries. It creates doubts regarding EC commitment to its concessions. Such a declaration particularly at this stage of the negotiations would not be conducive to the early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.