INTERNATIONAL MEAT COUNCIL'S WORKING PARTY
(MEETING OF 19 JUNE 1984)

Note by the Chairman

(Mr. Antti Satuli)

1. The IMC Working Party, established at the International Meat Council meeting 18 June 1984, held a meeting of an organizational nature on 19 June 1984.

2. The participants of the Working Party decided that observers from non-signatory governments and from intergovernmental organizations usually invited to IMC meetings, would be invited to attend meetings of the Working Party.

3. It was decided that the Working Party's first substantial meeting would be held in July, followed by meetings in September, October and November 1984. The results of the work undertaken in the Working Party shall be reported by the Chairman to the International Meat Council at its December 1984 meeting.

4. In accordance with the terms of reference established by the International Meat Council at its June 1984 meeting the Working Party agreed to proceed with its work in three stages:

   (i) Analyze, in the light of the current situation and probable development of the international bovine meat market, the existence of a serious imbalance or threat thereof; and make an assessment of factors, including export subsidies and other forms of assistance affecting exports, that are leading to or may lead to such an imbalance or threat thereof.

   (ii) Investigate the effects in particular on traditional exporting countries of such an imbalance or threat thereof and to see whether this situation is hampering the attainment of the objectives of the Arrangement.

   (iii) Make proposals, for the consideration of the International Meat Council, for suitable steps to be taken to overcome the imbalance or the threat thereof.
5. The Working Party agreed that the analysis of the situation should be concluded at its meeting in July 1984 and that the assessment of factors should be started at that meeting and concluded at the meeting in September. In September the Working Party should also start and conclude investigations of the effects of an imbalance or threat thereof. The meetings in October and November of the Working Party should consider proposals for suitable steps to recommend for consideration by the International Meat Council.

6. The Working party further agreed that interested participants would assist the secretariat in determining what material was needed, in particular statistical material. Following consultations with interested participants it was agreed that the secretariat prepare, with the assistance of participants when necessary, statistics concerning cattle numbers, production, consumption and trade as well as self-sufficiency ratios and prices. It was also agreed that the secretariat prepare a list of the most recent documents concerning domestic and trade policies in the bovine meat sector available in the IMC/- series and have these available for the participants at the first meeting of the Working Party.