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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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SPECIAL CUSTOMS TREATMENT ACCORDED BY AUSTRALIA TO PRODUCTS OF PAPUA, NEW GUINEA

Notification pursuant to paragraph 2 of the Decision of 13 November 1956

The following communication dated 29 October has been received from the Australian delegation:

"I am directed to notify you that the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia proposes to act, pursuant to the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 24th October, 1953 (as amended by the Decision of 13th November, 1956), to grant duty-free treatment to passionfruit juice produced in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea and imported into Australia.

"The action which the Australian Government proposes to take involves an increase in the duty payable on passionfruit juice imported from sources outside the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. The Government is prepared, therefore, to consult, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of the above mentioned Decision, with any contracting party which considers that such action would threaten substantial injury to its trade with Australia.

"Passionfruit juice is classifiable under Item 16(B) of the Australian Customs Tariff and is not specified in Schedule I to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"The Australian Government also proposes to take similar action with respect to passionfruit pulp which is classifiable under Item 54(A) of the Australian Customs Tariff. Item 54(A) is listed in Schedule I to the General Agreement and consequently does not, at the present time, fall within the scope of the Decision referred to above. However, negotiations have been initiated, under the provisions of Article XXVIII, to withdraw the existing concession under Item 54(A) insofar as it relates to passionfruit pulp. The Australian Government feels that it may suit the convenience of interested contracting parties if any consultations which may be requested regarding the proposed action on passionfruit pulp were conducted at the same time as those on passionfruit juice."