

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

DS25/2

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JAPAN - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Follow-up on the Panel Report

Request for Consultations under Article XXII:1 by Australia

The following communication, dated 5 April 1991, sent by the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva, is circulated in accordance with paragraph C.3 of the CONTRACTING PARTIES' 1989 Decision on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (BISD 36S/62).

Further to the discussion at the GATT Council meeting on 12 March 1991 and the communication contained in Document L/6832¹, I am writing to confirm Australia's desire to be joined in the consultations under Article XXII:1 sought by the United States in follow-up on the Panel report on "Japan - Restrictions on Imports of Certain Agricultural Products". This request is made in light of Australia's substantial trade interest in the matter and pursuant to the 1958 "Procedures under Article XXII on Questions Affecting the Interests of a Number of Contracting Parties" (BISD 7S/24).

In addition, I wish to convey Australia's request to hold Article XXII:1 consultations with Japan on the above matter pursuant to the 1989 "Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures" (BISD 36S/61). The reasons for this request have been made clear by Australia on a number of occasions, most recently in the GATT Council meetings on 6 February (C/M/247) and 12 March 1991 (C/M/248). In formalising this request, I can inform you that Australia would consider the requirements of such consultations as being met through our participation in the plurilateral consultations initiated by the United States.

In accordance with the 1958 Procedures and paragraph C.3 of the 1989 Improvements, I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the GATT Director-General with a request that it be circulated to contracting parties. I have also written in similar terms to the Office of the United States Trade Representative in Geneva.

¹Reissued as DS25/1.