GENERAL AGREEMENT

ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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URUGUAY

Statement by H.E. Mr. Miguel J. Berthet Ambassador, Permanent Representative

We wish to support the recent statement by the Permanent Representative of Australia in his capacity as Chairman of the Cairns Group concerning the importance of the Agreements achieved in the Uruguay Round in the area of agriculture, which are fundamental for my country's economy and development. We therefore welcome the results we have achieved in this field, but consider that we are merely at a stage along the path and that we must go deeper and must continue to go further in order to advance the liberalization of international agricultural trade.

As is well known, Uruguay has constantly supported the GATT since its earliest days. In this context I am very happy to inform you officially that the two Chambers of my country's Parliament, the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives, have just ratified the Uruguay Round Agreements. All that remains therefore is a purely formal stage of approval, or better said ratification, by the Executive. We think this formal act should be completed very shortly, and therefore in the very near future we shall be in a position to submit here, in Geneva, the instrument of ratification of the results of the Round by the Government of Uruguay.

Having said this, we renew our commitment to continue working as intensively as possible along with all other friendly countries that are members of the World Trade Organization to develop and perfect the international trading system.