

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5519  
12 July 1983

Limited Distribution

Original: Spanish

## SPAIN - SOYBEAN OIL AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTS

The following communication dated 4 July 1983 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Spain, with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

In connection with the request for consultations under Article XXII of the General Agreement addressed by the United States to Spain and circulated in document L/5509, I would request you kindly to circulate to all contracting parties the following reply sent today to the United States delegation:

"The Spanish authorities have examined your letter of 10 June last concerning certain Spanish practices in the market for soybean oil.

At first sight, the basic content of the practices mentioned seems to refer to the Spanish system of export aids. Consequently, the Spanish authorities consider that this matter would more appropriately be dealt with in the framework of the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.

On the other hand, the Spanish authorities, being concerned to fulfil their obligations within GATT, have on numerous occasions expressed their readiness to enter into consultations with contracting parties that so request. Accordingly, without entering into the question of procedure and while expressly reserving all the rights accruing to them under the General Agreement, they agree to the holding of such consultations.

In the interest of the latter being as effective as possible, the Spanish authorities would wish to receive, before the consultations take place, an explicit memorandum on the positions of the United States authorities in regard to the matters covered by the consultations."