

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

Limited Distribution

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EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF APPLES

Recourse to Article XXIII:2 by New Zealand

Communication from New Zealand

The following communication dated 1 June 1988 has been received from the Permanent Mission of New Zealand.

The Government of New Zealand wishes to refer to the CONTRACTING PARTIES pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement, the matter of the seasonal restrictions imposed by the European Economic Community on the import of apples.

The importation of apples (other than those for making cider) into the constituent Member States of the European Community in the period of February to August is subject to a combination of import quotas and licensing controls. As a result of the measures and restrictions applied by the EC, disruption has occurred to New Zealand trade in a critical period of its export season and limitations have been placed on this season's trade.

New Zealand considers that these restrictions and measures contravene, inter alia, the EC's obligations under Articles II and XI of the General Agreement and nullify and impair benefits accruing to New Zealand, directly or indirectly, under the General Agreement.

The restrictions and measures maintained by the European Economic Community have been the subject of discussions and consultations including consultations held under Article XXIII:I on 3 May 1988. These discussions and consultations have not resulted in a mutually satisfactory resolution of this issue. Therefore, the Government of New Zealand requests the Council of Representatives, at its meeting of 15 June 1988, to establish a panel to review this matter under Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement.