WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Agriculture

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CHINA'S TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM

Questions to China from the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu in the context of the Transitional Review Mechanism under Paragraph 18 of the Protocol of Accession of the People's Republic of China

The following communication, dated 12 September 2003, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, with the request that it be circulated to Members, for the purposes of the Transitional Review to take place at the Committee's meeting on 25 September 2003.

We understand that in 2003 China has made progress in its implementation of TRQs, promulgation of relevant regulations as well as allocation of quotas. According to China's commitments (paragraph 116 of China's Working Party Report), China agreed that TRQs shall be administered on a transparent basis. We would like China to clarify the following points regarding its use of transparency.

- (i) Please provide information on the fill rate of TRQs by product and the average quota amount that each quota holder obtains.
- (ii) Does China make public the information on quota holders and by what criteria does it make the allocation decision? If the response to the former question is positive, please also inform us by which means does China publicize such information.