



EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BANANA TRADE ASSOCIATION

E.C.B.T.A.

THIRD COUNTRY WORKING GROUP

May 18, 1993.

Mr. [REDACTED]
Director
DG VI
EC COMMISSION
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 BRUXELLES

Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

You are certainly aware of the fact that E.C.B.T.A. had set up a working group with the aim of elaborating a proposal for quality standards for bananas.

After several meetings it became however obvious that no agreement could be reached at this stage on essential criteria such as sizes - finger length and width, maximum differential between longest and shortest finger within one box, and the marking of the variety on the box - which is important for the ripening.

The third country banana operators, members of the working group, did not think it would be wise to base quality standards upon present practice of some specific ACP banana producing countries. They believe that quality standards should also be an instrument for improvement of quality and should therefore not have the lowest common denominator as a basis.

The matter will be taken up anew in the next E.C.B.T.A. meeting and you will be kept informed upon the outcome.

With best regards,

Sincerely Yours,

[REDACTED]

Chairman of
ECBTA THIRD COUNTRY WORKING GROUP

E.C.B.T.A. - Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (en formation)

[REDACTED]

Tél.

[REDACTED]

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