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No. 9262. INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT, 1968. OPEN FOR SIGNATURE AT NEW YORK FROM 18 TO 31 MARCH 1968¹

ACCESSION

Instrument deposited on :

28 May 1969

JAPAN

In a communication received on 17 June 1969, the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, upon instructions from his Government, made the following statement in connexion with the abovementioned deposit :

"At the 11th meeting of the Council of the International Coffee Organization the group of Consumer Countries jointly expressed the view that Member Countries take the greatest possible care not to interfere with freedom of choice in the carriage of coffee while respecting their obligations under the International Coffee Agreement.

"The shipping policy of Japan is based on the principle of free and fair competition and, in accordance with this policy, the Government of Japan considers that the application of discriminatory shipping practices, including the reservation of cargoes to national lines, will serve to increase costs and reduce efficiency in the international transport of coffee and that in the international carriage of coffee normal commercial considerations alone should determine the method and flag of shipment.

"The Government of Japan hopes that signatories to the International Coffee Agreement will share this view and will refrain from taking any action which might limit the freedom of vessels of all flags to participate in this trade without discrimination."

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 647, p. 3; for subsequent actions relating to this Agreement see Annex A in volumes 649, 651, 652, 653 and 669.