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January 22, 1985

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: Joint Statement Issued by the Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors of France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States

There follows for the information of the Executive Directors a joint statement that was issued on January 17 at the conclusion of their meeting by the Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors of France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States:

The Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors of France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States announced today that they had met to discuss a range of international economic and financial issues. The meeting, part of a regular series of consultations among these countries on economic and financial matters of mutual interest, also involved IMF Managing Director Jacques de Larosière for a discussion of the economic policies and prospects of the major industrial countries.

The Ministers and Governors, noting the recent developments in the exchange markets, expressed their commitment to work toward greater exchange market stability. Toward this end, the Ministers and Governors:

- reaffirmed their commitment to pursue monetary and fiscal policies that promote a convergence of economic performance at noninflationary, steady growth;

- stressed the importance of removing structural rigidities in their economics to achieving the objectives of noninflationary, steady growth and exchange market stability, and expressed their intent to intensify efforts in this area; and

- in light of recent developments in foreign exchange markets, reaffirmed their commitment made at the Williamsburg Summit (the seven-nation economic summit held in 1983) to undertake coordinated intervention in the markets as necessary.

The Ministers and Governors believe that this approach will provide a solid framework for sustaining recovery, reducing inflation, increasing employment, and achieving greater exchange rate stability.

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Department Heads