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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION, SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS

Status Report by the European Communities

Addendum

The following communication, dated 14 January 2000, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 21.6 of the DSU.

Status Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations and Rulings in the Dispute regarding European Communities – Regime for the Importation,
Sale and Distribution of Bananas

As explained extensively at the DSB meeting of 19 November 1999, the EC has now developed a proposal for the reform of the banana regime. This proposal comprises a decision to continue discussions with interested parties, in particular on the possible systems of distribution of licences for the tariff rate quota regime.

Those discussions are underway, and several proposals have been received and are being studied. There continue to be divergent views expressed by the main parties concerned, and even where there is apparent agreement, differences emerge in the details. As a result, no agreed conclusions can be reached at this stage. Efforts to find an agreed solution continue.