

KOREA - TAXES ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 5 June 1997, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Mission of Korea and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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I am writing to inform you that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, the European Communities wish to be joined in the consultations under Article XXII:1 of GATT 1994 requested by the United States as regards the internal taxes imposed by Korea on certain alcoholic beverages pursuant to the Liquor Tax Law and the Education Tax Law. The request of the United States for consultations with Korea was circulated to WTO Members on 28 May 1997 (WT/DS84/1).

The European Communities have a substantial trade interest in the Korean market of alcoholic beverages and they have already held consultations with Korea under Article XXII:1 of GATT 1994 on 29 May 1997.