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

Communication by Ecuador

Addendum

The following communication, dated 20 November 1998, from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to the DSU.

I refer to your communication of 18 November 1998 confirming the willingness of the European Communities to reactivate, on 23 November 1998, the consultations of 17 September 1998 requested by Ecuador, with a view to concluding the discussion of the subjects which were not addressed by the EC on that occasion.

In Ecuador's view, the EC's interpretation of the legal framework in which the meeting of 23 November will be taking place should include a reference to paragraph 4.8 of the DSU in accordance with the oral statements made by the EC delegation on the subject. However, Ecuador repeats what it said in its original request for consultations of 18 August 1998, namely that these consultations are not necessary and that, without prejudice to its rights under Article 21.5 of the DSU, it is requesting consultations with a view to ensuring that the process moves ahead without delay.

Ecuador is not opposed to the participation in the consultations of any WTO Member that has a substantial trade interest. Ecuador confirms that it will attend the consultations on Monday, 23 November on the understanding that they will be held under the same terms as those which began on 17 September 1998.
