WORLD TRADE

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CANADA – MEASURES RELATING TO EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND TREATMENT OF IMPORTED GRAIN

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 20 December 2002, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Mission of Canada, the Permanent Mission of the United States and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

We refer to the communication from the Permanent Mission of the United States addressed to the Permanent Mission of Canada and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body entitled "Canada – Measures Relating to Exports of Wheat and Treatment of Imported Grain" (WT/DS276) and which was circulated on 19 December 2002 in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU as document WT/DS276/1, G/L/597 and G/TRIMS/D/20.

The communication refers to consultations being sought with Canada pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994), and Article 8 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs Agreement) (to the extent it incorporates by reference Article XXII of the GATT 1994) with regard to matters concerning the export of wheat by the Canadian Wheat Board and the treatment accorded by Canada to grain imported into Canada.

In view of the substantial trade interest of the European Communities in this matter, my authorities have instructed me to notify you of the desire of the European Communities to be joined in the consultations between Canada and the United States pursuant to Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The European Communities looks forward to receiving your reply to this request.