

Original: English

**UNITED STATES – SAFEGUARD MEASURE ON IMPORTS OF FRESH, CHILLED OR
FROZEN LAMB FROM AUSTRALIA**

Request for Consultations by Australia

The following communication, dated 23 July 1999, from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Permanent Mission of the United States and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

My authorities have instructed me to request consultations with the Government of the United States under Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) and pursuant to Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT 1994) and Article 14 of the Agreement on Safeguards with regard to the definitive safeguard measure imposed by the United States on imports of lamb meat.^{1, 2}

Under the "Proclamation 7208 of 7 July 1999 – To Facilitate Positive Adjustment to Competition From Imports of Lamb Meat" and the "Memorandum of 7 July 1999 – Action Under Section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 Concerning Lamb Meat" by the President of the United States, published in the Federal Register Vol. 64, No. 131, pp. 37389-37392 on 9 July 1999 and the Federal Register Vol. 64, No. 132, pp. 37393-37394 on 12 July 1999 respectively, the United States introduced a definitive safeguard measure in the form of a tariff-rate quota on imports of lamb meat effective as of 22 July 1999. Australia considers that this measure is inconsistent with the United States' obligations under the provisions of the Agreement on Safeguards, in particular Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 11 and 12, and of GATT 1994, in particular Articles I, II, and XIX.

Australia reserves the right to raise additional factual matters and legal claims during the course of the consultations.

I look forward to receiving the reaction of your authorities to this request so that we can arrange a mutually convenient date to hold consultations.

¹ G/SG/N/10/USA/3 and G/SG/N/11/USA/3.

² Covering fresh, chilled, or frozen lamb meat, provided for in subheadings 0204.10.00, 0204.22.20, 0204.23.20, 0204.30.00, 0204.42.20, and 0204.43.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.