WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

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<u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION,</u> SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS

Communication from the Dominican Republic

The following communication, dated 12 October 1995, from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Permanent Missions of Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico and the Chairman of the DSB is circulated at the request of the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic.

The Government of the Dominican Republic wishes to notify you of its desire to be joined in the consultations that the Governments of Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and the United States of America have requested with the European Union, pursuant to Article 4 of the WTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, Article XXIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article XXIII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services, and Article 6 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, in connection with the regime for the importation, sale and distribution of bananas, established in Regulation 404/93. The request in question is contained in document WT/DS16/1, dated 4 October 1995.

The Government of the Dominican Republic makes this notification under Article 4, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes and because it considers that it has a major interest in following these consultations, since any change in the European Union's regime for the importation of bananas would seriously injure the Dominican banana industry.