

**CANADA – CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF OBLIGATIONS
IN THE EC – HORMONES DISPUTE**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 19 November 2004, from the delegation of the United States to the delegation of Canada, the delegation of the European Communities and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I am writing concerning the request for consultations by the European Communities ("EC") on *Canada – Continued Suspension of Obligations in the EC – Hormones Dispute*, circulated on 10 November 2004 (WT/DS321/1). Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*, my authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the United States to be joined in these consultations.

The United States has a substantial trade interest in this matter. The United States and Canada were co-complainants in the underlying dispute on the EC's WTO-inconsistent ban on imports of beef treated with growth hormones, and the EC has brought a parallel dispute against the United States.
