

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – SELECTED CUSTOMS MATTERS

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan,
Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu*

The following communication, dated 7 October 2004, from the delegation of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the delegation of the European Communities, the delegation of the United States and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu hereby notifies the consulting parties and the Dispute Settlement Body that it wishes to join in the consultations requested by the United States regarding selected customs matters of the European Communities. The United States' request for consultations, pursuant to Articles 1 and 4 of the DSU, and Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, was circulated on 27 September 2004 in document WT/DS315/1.

The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu exported, according to our statistics, over US\$19 billion in 2003 and US\$17 billion in 2002 to the European Communities. Much of these exports are subject to the same customs laws and regulations challenged by the United States. Because of our substantial trade interest, as well as systemic interest, we request to join these consultations.

We would be grateful if we were to be informed of the date and venue of the consultations so as to enable our participation.
