

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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## **EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION, SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS**

### Status Report by the European Communities

#### Addendum

The following communication, dated 8 November 1999, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 21.6 of the DSU.

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#### Status Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations and Rulings in the Dispute regarding European Communities – Regime for the Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas

As explained extensively at previous meetings of the DSB, intensive discussions with interested Members have been undertaken, with a view to presenting proposals for amendments to the Community's banana regime. It appears that a majority of the parties concerned would prefer that a tariff rate quota system be maintained, at least in the short term. However, there continues to be wide divergence of views on both the acceptability of the possible mechanisms of such a system, and on which solutions would be considered WTO-consistent.

The Commission of the European Communities has therefore decided that it will make a proposal, taking into account all the views which have been expressed, which best meets the Community objectives, including WTO consistency. Such a proposal will be discussed in the Commission on 10 November. It should therefore be possible to give further details on 19 November.

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