

**ARGENTINA – MEASURES AFFECTING THE EXPORT OF BOVINE HIDES
AND THE IMPORT OF FINISHED LEATHER**

Request by the European Communities
for Arbitration under Article 21.3(c) of the DSU

The following communication, dated 14 May 2001, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of that delegation.

On 16 February 2001, the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) adopted the recommendations and rulings contained in the panel report in the proceeding "Argentina – Measures Affecting the Export of Bovine Hides and the Import of Finished Leather" (DS 155).

At the meeting of the DSB held on 12 March, Argentina indicated that they intended to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. The European Communities and Argentina further informed the DSB of their ongoing bilateral consultations on the period of time for implementation.

However, it has not been possible to reach an agreement with Argentina on a period of time pursuant to Article 21.3(b) of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU). Therefore, the European Communities hereby request that the reasonable period of time be determined through binding arbitration pursuant to Article 21.3(c) DSU.

The representatives of the European Communities will immediately open discussions with Argentina in order to agree on an arbitrator.
