

UKRAINE – TAXES ON DISTILLED SPIRITS

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the European Union

The following communication, dated 14 March 2011, from the delegation of the European Union to the delegation of Moldova, the delegation of Ukraine 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 European Union hereby notifies the Government of Ukraine, the Government of Moldova, and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in light of the substantial trade interest of the European Union, it desires to join the consultations requested by Moldova in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 7 March 2011 (WT/DS423/1; G/L/954) entitled *Ukraine – Taxes on distilled spirits*.

The European Union has an interest in the systemic questions involved and in the correct application of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*. As a main exporter of distilled spirits to Ukraine, the European Union has a substantive trade interest in the present dispute and considers that the significant imports of distilled spirits from the European Union are adversely affected by the Ukraine's measures challenged by Moldova.

The European Union therefore has a substantial trade interest in the present dispute.

The European Union looks forward to being informed of the date and venue of the consultations.
