

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

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

### Communication from Venezuela

The following communication, dated 13 October 1995, from the Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Permanent Missions of Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico and the Chairman of the DSB is circulated at the request of the Permanent Mission of Venezuela.

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The Government of Venezuela has taken note with great interest of the joint request by Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and the United States for consultations in connection with the European Communities' regime for the importation, sale and distribution of bananas, established by Regulation 404/93 and the legislation implementing, supplementing and amending it.<sup>1</sup>

As you are aware, Venezuela, together with the Governments of Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, signed with the European Communities the Framework Agreement on Bananas, which forms part of the above-mentioned legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 3290/94, OJ L349), and is the basis of Venezuela's substantial trade interest in the banana market of the European Communities.

In view of this substantial trade interest and bearing in mind the provisions of Article 6 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes and other rules applicable in this matter, the Government of Venezuela asks to be joined in the above-mentioned process of consultations.

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<sup>1</sup>Document WT/DS16/1 of 4 October 1995.