

**CHINA – MEASURES AFFECTING FINANCIAL INFORMATION SERVICES AND  
FOREIGN FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUPPLIERS**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from the European Communities*

The following communication, dated 14 March 2008, from the delegation of the European Communities to the delegation of China, the delegation of the United States and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*, the European Communities hereby notifies the Governments of the People's Republic of China, of the United States and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in the light of the substantial trade interest of the European Communities, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by the United States in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 5 March 2008 (WT/DS373/1, S/L/320) entitled "*China – Measures Affecting Financial Information Services and Foreign Financial Information Suppliers*".

The European Communities requests to be joined in the consultations given the substantive business interests the EC has in the financial information services sector in China and the systemic questions involved. Therefore, the European Communities has a substantial trade interest in the present dispute, in the implementation of China's commitments under its Protocol of Accession to the WTO and in the correct application of the *General Agreement on Trade in Services*.

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