

**INDIA - PATENT PROTECTION FOR PHARMACEUTICAL AND
AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL PRODUCTS**

Request by the European Communities and its Member States
Regarding Consultations by the United States

The following communication, dated 29 January 1999, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Mission of India, the Permanent Mission of the United States and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to the procedure provided for under Article 21.5 of the DSU.

Pursuant to the procedures laid down in Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the European Communities and its Member States wish to join in the consultations requested by the United States by communication circulated to WTO Members on 20 January 1999 (Doc. WT/DS50/11).

The European pharmaceutical and agro-chemical industry has important export interests in the Indian market.
