

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND ITS MEMBER STATES – TARIFF TREATMENT  
OF CERTAIN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from the United States*

The following communication, dated 12 June 2008, from the delegation of the United States to the delegation of the European Communities, the delegation of Japan and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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This concerns the request for consultations by Japan on *European Communities and its member States – Tariff Treatment of Certain Information Technology Products*, circulated on 2 June 2008 (WT/DS376/1). My authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the United States to be joined in these consultations, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*. The United States has a substantial trade interest in these consultations. They concern certain measures of the European Communities and its member States affecting the tariff treatment of information technology products, measures on which the United States has also requested consultations (WT/DS375/1). These measures appear to result in the imposition of duties on certain information technology products, products which are designed, produced, and exported by US manufacturers.

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