

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATION OF
FROZEN BONELESS CHICKEN CUTS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 25 October 2002, from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Brazil and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I am writing concerning the request for consultations by Brazil on *European Communities – Customs Classification of Frozen Boneless Chicken Cuts*, circulated on 16 October 2002 (WT/DS269/1). Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*, 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.

The United States has a substantial trade interest in this matter. The United States is a leading producer and exporter of poultry world-wide. Over the period 1996-2001, US exports of poultry (HS0207) averaged nearly \$2 billion world-wide; in many years during that period US global exports exceeded \$2 billion (e.g. in 2001). Furthermore, a significant portion of US global exports are frozen poultry parts (HS020714). During the 1996-2001 period, about 75% of total US exports were these poultry parts.
