

**UNITED STATES – IMPORT MEASURES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS  
FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from Japan*

The following communication, dated 12 March 1999, from the Permanent Mission of Japan, to the Permanent Mission 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 paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, the Government of Japan hereby notifies the Government of the United States that, in light of the substantial trade interest of Japan, it desires to be joined in the above consultations requested by the European Communities in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 5 March 1999 (WT/DS165/1).

In 1995, the United States took similar measures on automobiles from Japan, thus creating an immediate negative impact on the Japanese industry. Since the United States is a major trading partner of Japan, the measures taken by the US against the EC will again affect the substantial trade interest of Japan.

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