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UNITED STATES – SECTION 110(5) OF THE US COPYRIGHT ACT

Request by the European Communities and their member States for Arbitration under Article 21.3(c) of the DSU

The following communication, dated 23 October 2000, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of that delegation.

The DSB has adopted at its meeting of 27 July 2000 the recommendations made in the report of the Panel made in the case referred to above.

At the meeting of the DSB, held on 1 September 2000, the United States informed the DSB of its intentions in respect of implementation of the recommendations of the DSB.

In the meantime, extensive discussions between the parties to the dispute have taken place in relation to the "reasonable period of time", but no mutually satisfactory solution as to the "reasonable period of time" for implementation of the recommendations of the DSB has been found to date.

Therefore, the European Communities request that the "reasonable period of time" for compliance be determined by means of binding arbitration as provided for in Article 21(3)(c) DSU.

The European Communities are fully prepared to hold discussions for the prompt appointment of the arbitrator.