

BRAZIL – MEASURES ON IMPORT LICENSING AND MINIMUM IMPORT PRICES

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 27 October 1999, from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Mission of Brazil, the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the United States Government hereby notifies the Government of Brazil that, in light of the substantial trade interest of the United States, it desires to be joined in the consultations under Article 19 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, Article 6 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, Article 19 of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994, and Article XXII of GATT 1994 requested by the European Communities in a document circulated on 25 October 1999 (WT/DS183/1) concerning various measures on import licensing and minimum pricing taken by Brazil impacting textile products Sorbitol and Carboxymethylcellulose (CMC).

The United States has a substantial trade interest in the product markets affected by the alleged Brazilian actions detailed in the request of the European Communities. In 1998, US textile exports to Brazil totaled \$127.98 million declining from \$178.2 million in 1997. US textile exports totaling \$58.5 million in the first six months of 1999, down from \$91.5 million in the first six month of 1998. For CMC, US exports to Brazil totaled \$1.14 million in 1998 and \$1.25 million in the first six months of 1999. US exports of Sorbitol totaled \$1.1 million in 1998 and \$503,000 in the first six months of 1999.
