

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – SELECTED CUSTOMS MATTERS**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from Argentina*

The following communication, dated 7 October 2004, from the delegation of Argentina to the delegation of the European Communities, the delegation of the United States and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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I hereby refer to the request made by the United States in document WT/DS315/1-G/L/694 of 27 September 2004 for consultations with the European Communities concerning:

- (a) The non-uniform administration by the European Communities of laws, regulations, judicial decisions and administrative rulings of the kind described in Article X:1 of the GATT 1994 pertaining to the classification and valuation of products for customs purposes and to requirements, restrictions or prohibitions on imports, and
- (b) the failure of the European Communities to institute judicial, arbitral or administrative tribunals or procedures for the purpose, *inter alia*, of the prompt review and correction of administrative action relating to customs matters.

In view of its substantial trade interest, Argentina requests to be joined in the aforementioned consultations, pursuant to the procedures established in Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU).

The above request is based on the fact that private sector exporters in Argentina have stated that in their trade relations with the European Communities, they have encountered similar problems to those mentioned by the United States in its request for consultations.

This circumstance is made all the more significant by the fact that the European Communities is one of Argentina's main trading partners.

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