

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION,
SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Ecuador

The following communication, dated 11 November 1997, from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Panama and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4:11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, I would hereby like to affirm Ecuador's interest in joining the consultations requested by Panama with the European Communities to discuss the situation with respect to the latter's regime for the importation of bananas currently in force.

As the main supplier of bananas to the European Communities, Ecuador asks to join the said consultations, it being understood that:

- (a) On 25 September 1997, the WTO Dispute Settlement Body adopted the recommendations and conclusions of the Report of the Panel on the European Communities' Regime for the Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas and the associated final report of the Appellate Body;
- (b) the consultations agreed between Panama and the European Communities in no way alter the process of implementation of the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the DSB on 25 September 1997; and
- (c) Ecuador's purpose in participating in the consultations agreed between Panama and the European Communities is to learn in greater detail how the European Communities will be implementing the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the DSB on 25 September 1997, taking account of Panama's request.