WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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INDIA – ADDITIONAL AND EXTRA-ADDITIONAL DUTIES ON IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 16 March 2007, from the delegation of the European Communities to the delegation of the United States, the delegation of India and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (DSU), the European Communities hereby notifies the Government of the United States, the Government of India, and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in the light of the substantial trade interest of the European Communities, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by the United States in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 12 March 2007 (WT/DS360/1) entitled *DS360 - India – Additional and Extra Additional Duties on Imports from the United States*.

For the reasons set out in the document entitled "Report to the Trade Barriers Regulation Committee, Examination Procedure Concerning an Obstacle to Trade, within the Meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No 3286/94, Consisting of Trade Practices Maintained by India Affecting Trade in Wines and Spirits, Complaint Submitted by the European Spirits Organisation (CEPS) and the Comité Européen des Enterprises Vins (CEEV)", which was communicated to the Indian Government on 25 July 2006 and which is available at http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/respectrules/tbr/cases/ind_alc.htm, the European Communities consider that exports of wines and spirits from the European Communities are adversely affected by the measures challenged by the United States.

The European Communities therefore has a substantial trade interest in the present dispute.

The European Communities looks forward to being informed of the date and venue of the consultations.