

**KOREA – MEASURES AFFECTING GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from the European Communities*

The following communication, dated 3 March 1999, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Mission of Korea and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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Pursuant to Article XXII of the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) and paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, the European Communities request the Government of Korea, in light of the substantial trade interest of the EC, to be joined in the consultations requested by the United States in a communication circulated to the WTO Members on 22 February 1999 (WT/DS163/1, GPA/D4/1) entitled "Korea – Measures Affecting Government Procurement".

The European Communities have a substantial trade interest in the procurement practices that are the subject of the US request as EC construction firms are second only to the USA in the construction of airfields around the world.

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