

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from Costa Rica*

The following communication, dated 17 December 2001, from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the Permanent Delegation of the European Communities, the Permanent Mission of Thailand and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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The Government of Costa Rica has taken note of the request for consultations addressed by the Government of Thailand to the European Communities (EC) pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) and other provisions, on the issue of the "special preferential treatment granted under the EC's scheme of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) that adversely affects imports of goods originating in the Kingdom of Thailand".

The Government of Costa Rica, as a beneficiary of the scheme of preferences granted by the EC to Andean and Central American countries, has a substantial trade interest in this matter. On this basis, and in accordance with the DSU, the Government of Costa Rica hereby requests to be joined in the consultations.

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