

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – PROTECTION OF TRADEMARKS
AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS AND FOODSTUFFS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from New Zealand

The following communication, dated 2 May 2003, from the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Australia and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of New Zealand hereby notifies the consulting parties and the Dispute Settlement Body that New Zealand desires to be joined in the consultations requested by Australia pursuant to Article 4 of the DSU, Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994), Article 64 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the TRIPS Agreement) and Article 14 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) regarding the protection of trademarks and geographical indications for agricultural products and foodstuffs in the European Communities. The Australian request for consultations was circulated on 23 April 2003 as WT/DS290/1.

New Zealand has a substantial trade interest in agricultural products and foodstuffs that are the subject of the Australian request for consultations, and hence desires to be joined in these consultations. We look forward to the European Communities' confirmation of receipt and acceptance of this request to join the consultations and advice regarding the timing and venue for the consultations.
