WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

WT/DS75/222 April 1997

(97-1763)

Original: English

KOREA - TAXES ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 17 April 1997, from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Mission of Korea, the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and to 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, the United States Government hereby notifies the Dispute Settlement Body that, in light of the substantial trade interest of the United States, it desires to be joined in the consultations under Article XXII:1 of GATT 1994 requested by the European Communities in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 9 April 1997 (WT/DS75/1), entitled "Korea - Taxes on Alcoholic Beverages".

The United States has a substantial trade interest in the alcoholic beverages that are the subject of the EC request. Korea is the ninth largest market for U.S. distilled spirits exports. U.S. exports of distilled spirits were valued at \$11.4 million in 1996.