WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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<u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION,</u> <u>SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS</u>

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the Côte d'Ivoire

The following communication, dated 10 November 1997, from the Permanent Mission of Côte d'Ivoire to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Panama and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire has taken note of the request for consultations by Panama with the European Communities on the latter's regime for the importation, sale and distribution of bananas as established through Regulation 404/93.

Owing to the importance of the banana trade to its economy, Côte d'Ivoire would like to join the said consultations in accordance with Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes and Article XXII of the GATT 1994.