

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – MEASURES AFFECTING DIFFERENTIAL AND
FAVOURABLE TREATMENT OF COFFEE**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Costa Rica

The following communication, dated 18 December 1998, from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The Government of Costa Rica has taken note of the request of the Government of Brazil for consultations with the European Communities (EC), pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) and other provisions, regarding "special preferential treatment granted under the EC's Generalized System of Preferences scheme that affects the importation into the EC of soluble coffee originating in Brazil."

Costa Rica, as a coffee exporter and beneficiary of the scheme of preferences granted by the EC to the Andean and Central American countries, has a substantial trade interest in this matter. On the basis of that interest and in conformity with the DSU, the Government of Costa Rica asks to be joined in the consultations.
