

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

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 17 June 1999, from the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission 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 Canada hereby notifies the consulting parties and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in light of Canada's substantial trade interest, Canada desires to be joined in the consultations under Article 64 of the TRIPS Agreement (and, as incorporated by reference, Article XXIII of the GATT 1994) requested by the United States in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 1 June 1999 (WT/DS174/1) entitled "European Communities - Protection of Trademarks and Geographical Indications for Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs".

Canada has a substantial trade interest in the agricultural products and foodstuffs that are the subject of the US request. Protection of related trademarks and geographical indications within the European regime is a critical contributing element for the continuation and expansion of that trade, particularly in the area of market access for Canadian wines and spirits products.
