

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – MEASURES PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION
AND MARKETING OF SEAL PRODUCTS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 20 November 2009, from the delegation of Canada to the delegation of the European Communities, the delegation of Norway and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

My authorities have instructed me to request, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the WTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, that Canada be joined in the consultations requested by Norway on 5 November 2009 in a communication circulated to Members on 10 November 2009 entitled *European Communities – Measures Prohibiting the Importation and Marketing of Seal Products* (WT/DS401/1).

Canada is a major exporter of seal products, with the European Communities and Norway representing significant destination markets for these products. Therefore, Canada has a substantial trade interest in these consultations. In addition, Canada has requested its own consultations with the European Communities with respect to the same measures resulting in severe restrictions on the marketing of seal products in the European Union market (WT/DS400). In that regard, Canada would like to thank the European Communities for having agreed to hold consultations for DS400 and DS401 jointly on 15 December 2009.

Canada looks forward to receiving the European Communities' reply to this request.
