

Original: English

**IRELAND – MEASURES AFFECTING THE  
GRANT OF COPYRIGHT AND NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS  
(WT/DS82)**

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – MEASURES AFFECTING THE  
GRANT OF COPYRIGHT AND NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS  
(WT/DS115)**

Notification of Mutually Agreed Solution

The following communication, dated 6 November 2000, from the Permanent Mission of Ireland, the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 3.6 of the DSU.

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The United States of America, Ireland and the European Communities wish to notify the Dispute Settlement Body that they have reached a mutually satisfactory solution to the matter raised by the Government of the United States in WT/DS82/1 and WT/DS115/1, dated 14 May 1997 and 6 January 1998, respectively, concerning the protection of copyright and neighbouring rights under Ireland's law.

During consultations on this matter, agreement was reached whereby Ireland would first pass a bill on an expedited basis to address two particularly pressing enforcement issues, and would then amend its copyright law in conformity with TRIPS. Ireland accomplished the former by ways of the Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1998 (28 of 1998), and the latter by way of the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (28 of 2000). Ireland has agreed to implement the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 by the end of December 2000.

Based on these developments, Ireland, the European Communities and the United States have agreed that a mutually satisfactory solution has been reached to the matter raised by the United States. This agreement is without prejudice to the rights or obligations of the Members under the Agreement

Establishing the World Trade Organization and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. We would ask you to circulate this notification to the relevant Councils and Committees, as well as to the DSB.

(s.) Mr. Paul Bennett  
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.  
Permanent Mission of Ireland

(s.) Ms. Rita D. Hayes  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of the United States

(s.) Mr. Carlo Trojan  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
Permanent Delegation of the European Commission

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