

**VENEZUELA – IMPORT LICENSING MEASURES ON
CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 20 November 2002, from the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Permanent Mission of Venezuela, the Permanent Mission of the United States and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (DSU), the Government of Canada hereby notifies its desire to be joined in consultations requested by the United States pursuant to Articles 1 and 4 of the DSU, Article XXII of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994* (GATT 1994), Article 6 of the *Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures* (Import Licensing Agreement), Article 19 of the *Agreement on Agriculture*, and Article 8 of the *Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures* (TRIMs Agreement), with respect to Venezuelan import licensing systems and practices that restrict agricultural imports.

The relevant communication from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Mission of Venezuela, dated 7 November 2002, was circulated to WTO Members on 12 November 2002 (WT/DS275/1, G/L/587, G/LIC/D/35, G/AG/GEN/55, G/TRIMS/D/19).

Canadian exports of certain agri-food products, including meat, seed potatoes, table potatoes, onions and pulses, have been affected by Venezuela's import licensing systems and practices. Canada therefore has a substantial trade interest in the matters under consultation.

We look forward to receiving your advice regarding the date and venue for these consultations.
