

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

Status Report by the European Communities

The following communication, dated 9 January 2006, from the delegation of the European Communities to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 21.6 of the DSU.

**Status Report Regarding Implementation of the
DSB Recommendations and Rulings in the Dispute
European Communities – Protection of Trademarks and Geographical Indications for Agricultural
Products and Foodstuffs
(WT/DS174, WT/DS290)**

The European Communities submits this report in accordance with Article 21.6 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*.

On 20 April 2005, the Dispute Settlement Body (the "DSB") adopted the Panel Reports in *European Communities – Protection of Trademarks and Geographical Indications for Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs*. At the DSB meeting of 19 May 2005, the European Communities confirmed its intention to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in this dispute and stated that it would require a "reasonable period of time" in which to do so, pursuant to Article 21.3 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (the "DSU").

On 9 June 2005 the parties notified the DSB that pursuant to Article 21.3(b) of the DSU they had agreed that the reasonable period of time for the European Communities to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in this dispute would be 11 months and 2 weeks and would therefore expire on 3 April 2006.

On 23 December 2005, the European Commission proposed to the Council a revised regulation on geographical indications for agricultural and foodstuffs which would implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. This proposal is currently under discussion within the Council and the European Parliament.
