

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - REGIME FOR THE IMPORTATION,
SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BANANAS**

Request by the Dominican Republic Regarding Consultations by Ecuador

The following communication, dated 20 November 1998, from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to the procedure provided for under Article 21.5 of the DSU.

The Government of the Dominican Republic has taken note of the request by the Government of Ecuador, circulated in document WT/DS27/30 of 16 November 1998, for the holding of consultations concerning European Council Regulations Nos. 1637/98 and 2362/98 on the European Community regime for the importation, sale and distribution of bananas.

Given the importance of trade in bananas for its economy and in view of its substantial trade interest, the Dominican Republic, pursuant to Article XXII of the GATT and Article 4, paragraph 11 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding, would like to be joined in the consultations requested by the Government of Ecuador.
