

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

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from India

The following communication, dated 22 April 2003, from the Permanent Mission of India to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, 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 India hereby notifies its desire to be joined in the consultations requested by the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Delegation of the European Communities and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), Article 64 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) with respect to the protection of trademarks and geographical indications for agricultural products and foodstuffs in the European Communities (EC). The 4 April 2003 communication from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission was circulated to WTO Members on 10 April 2003 (WT/DS174/1/Add.1; IP/D/19/Add.1; G/L/619).

India has a substantial trade interest in the consultations on the matter in the dispute, as well as a systemic interest in the matter of protection of geographical indications. We would be grateful of being informed of the date and venue of consultations, so as to enable us to participate in the consultations.
