

**ARGENTINA – MEASURES AFFECTING THE EXPORT OF BOVINE HIDES
AND THE IMPORT OF FINISHED LEATHER**

Extension of Time Period under Article 21.3(c) of the DSU

The following communication, dated 17 May 2001, from the Permanent Mission of Argentina and the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of those delegations.

We refer you to the communication from the European Communities, dated 14 May 2001, requesting binding arbitration under Article 21.3(c) of the Understanding on Rules Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) to determine the reasonable period of time for Argentina to implement the recommendations and rulings of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in the matter "Argentina – Measures Affecting the Export of Bovine Hides and the Import of Finished Leather" (WT/DS155).

The parties to the dispute, Argentina and the European Communities, are currently holding consultations for the appointment of an arbitrator, pursuant to footnotes 12 and 13 to Article 21.3(c) of the DSU.

With respect to the time period for the arbitration, Article 21.3(c) of the DSU requires that the reasonable period of time for implementation be determined through binding arbitration within 90 days after the date of adoption of the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. As this 90-day period is about to expire, We, the parties to this dispute, have agreed to extend the period of time for this binding arbitration, which shall be completed no later than 90 days after the date of the appointment of the arbitrator. We have agreed that the award of the arbitrator, made within the agreed time period, shall be deemed to be the award of the arbitrator for the purposes of Article 21.3(c) of the DSU in determining the reasonable period of time for Argentina to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB.
