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CANADA - MEASURES AFFECTING FILM DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

Request for Consultations by the European Communities

The following communication, dated 20 January 1998, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Mission of Canada and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

The European Communities and their Member States have instructed us to request consultations with the Government of Canada pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) and Article XXIII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) regarding measures affecting film distribution services applied by the Government of Canada.

The measures concerned include the 1987 Policy Decision on film distribution and its application to European companies. These measures appear to contravene Articles II (Most-favoured-nation treatment) and III-1 (Transparency) of the GATS.

We look forward to receiving your reply to this request and to fixing a mutually convenient date for consultations.
