

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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UNITED STATES - IMPOSITION OF IMPORT DUTIES ON
AUTOMOBILES FROM JAPAN
UNDER SECTIONS 301 AND 304 OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974

Request to Join Consultations under Article 4.11 of the DSU

The following communication, dated 31 May 1995, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Office of the United States Trade Representative and the Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva, is circulated at the request of the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission.

Pursuant to the procedures laid down in Article 4:11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the European Communities wish to be joined in the consultations under Article XXII:1 of GATT 1994 requested by Japan by a communication circulated to WTO Members on 22 May 1995 (WT/DS6/1) regarding trade measures affecting the import of certain Japanese cars into the United States which were announced on 16 May 1995 by the United States under Section 301 of the 1974 Omnibus Trade Act. The EC have a substantial trade interest in the strict observance of the rules concerning the strengthening of the multilateral system laid down in Article 23 of the DSU which have been invoked in the consultation request submitted by Japan. These rules are essential for the good functioning of the multilateral trading system and for the dispute settlement procedures under the WTO.