

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

Request by Costa Rica Regarding Consultations by Ecuador

The following communication, dated 20 November 1998, from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica 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.

In a communication dated 13 November 1998, Ecuador requested the European Communities to hold consultations on compliance with the conclusions and recommendations of the Dispute Settlement Body in the case European Communities - Regime for the Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas (WT/DS/27).

Pursuant to the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, in particular Article 4 thereof, and on the basis of Costa Rica's substantial trade interest as one of the main suppliers of Bananas to the European Community Market, the Government of Costa Rica hereby notifies its desire to be joined in the said consultations as a third party.
