

**MOLDOVA – MEASURES AFFECTING THE IMPORTATION  
AND INTERNAL SALE OF GOODS (ENVIRONMENTAL CHARGE)**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from the European Union*

The following communication, dated 3 March 2011, from the delegation of the European union to the delegation of Moldova, the delegation of Ukraine and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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On 17 February 2011 Ukraine requested consultations with Moldova on *Moldova – Measures Affecting the Importation and Internal Sale of Goods (Environmental Charges)*. The request for consultations was circulated to WTO Members on 21 February 2011 under reference WT/DS/421/1; G/L/952.

My authorities have instructed me to notify the Government of Moldova, the Government of Ukraine and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the EU to join the consultations, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*.

The EU has a substantial trade interest in these consultations as well as a systemic interest in the implementation of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*. It is an important producer and exporter of packaging material as well as of the packaged products under dispute. Furthermore, EU exports to Moldova goods for an approximate value of 500 million Euros per year - many of these goods are potentially subject to the measures set out in the request for consultations.

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