

**CANADA - PATENT PROTECTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS**

Request for Arbitration under Article 21.3(c) of the DSU

The following communication, dated 9 June 2000, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of that delegation.

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The DSB has adopted at its meeting of 7 April 2000 the recommendations made in the report of the Panel made in the case referred to above.

At the meeting of the DSB, held on 25 April 2000, Canada informed the DSB of its intentions in respect of implementation of the recommendations of the DSB.

In the meantime, extensive discussions between the parties to the dispute have taken place in relation to the "reasonable period of time". While the period of time foreseen in Article 21:3(b) DSU had been extended by mutual consent by the Parties (see WT/DS114/10 of 31 May 2000), no mutually satisfactory solution as to the "reasonable period of time" for implementation of the recommendations of the DSB has been found to date.

Therefore, the European Communities and their Member States request that the "reasonable period of time" for compliance be determined by means of binding arbitration as provided for in Article 21.3(c) DSU.

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