

CANADA - PATENT PROTECTION OF  
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Australia

The following communication, dated 22 January 1998, from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Permanent Mission of Canada, to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Australian Government hereby notifies that, in light of the substantial trade interest of Australia, it desires to be joined in the consultations under Article 64.1 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and Article XXII of GATT 1994 requested by the European Communities in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 12 January 1998 (WT/DS114/1), entitled "Canada - Patent Protection of Pharmaceutical Products".

Australia has a substantial trade interest in the protection of pharmaceutical inventions referred to in the request of the European Communities. In 1996/97 Australia exported over \$A979 million of pharmaceutical goods, including \$A173 million exported to the EC and \$A17 million exported to Canada.

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