

Original: English

EGYPT - IMPORT PROHIBITION ON CANNED TUNA WITH SOYBEAN OIL

Request for Consultations by Thailand

The following communication, dated 22 September 2000, from the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the Permanent Mission of Egypt and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

I have the honour, upon instruction of my authorities, to request consultations with the Arab Republic of Egypt pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), Article XXIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT), and Article 11 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), regarding the prohibition imposed by the Arab Republic of Egypt on importation of canned tuna with soybean oil from the Kingdom of Thailand, pursuant to Letter dated 2 January 2000 of the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Circular Note no. 5 of the Year 2000 issued on 13 January 2000 by the Customs Authority of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Kingdom of Thailand considers that, through the above-mentioned measures, the Arab Republic of Egypt fails to carry out its obligations under the following provisions of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization:

1. Article I, Article XI, and Article XIII of the GATT;
2. Article 2, Article 3, Article 5, and Annex B, Paragraph 2 and Paragraph 5, of the SPS Agreement;

The Kingdom of Thailand reserves its right to raise additional factual or legal claims during the course of the consultations and any other subsequent actions under the DSU, and looks forward to establishing a mutually convenient date for consultations on this matter.
