

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES

The following letter has been received by the Secretariat from the European Commission with the request that it be circulated to Members.

On 29 March 1995, the Commission notified to the WTO the Single Enquiry Point for the European Community and its Member States as required under the SPS Agreement. I would like to clarify how the notification system foreseen under the Agreement will operate as regards the notification of draft Community and Member States measures.

To ensure internal coordination within the Community, Member States will establish contact points.

Notifications of draft Community measures will be made by the Community Notification Point to the Secretariat of the SPS Committee. Comments and requests for information from WTO members should be addressed to the Community Enquiry Point.

Notifications of draft Member State measures (other than the transposition of Community legislation) will be made by the Community Notification Point to the Secretariat of the SPS Committee. The notification will indicate the Member State in which the draft measure originates.

Comments and requests for information from WTO members should be addressed to the Community Enquiry Point and to the contact point of the Member State concerned, as indicated in the notification.