

**MEXICO – CERTAIN MEASURES PREVENTING THE
IMPORTATION OF BLACK BEANS FROM NICARAGUA**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 28 March 2003, from the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Permanent Mission of Mexico, the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (DSU), the Government of Canada hereby notifies its desire to be joined in consultations requested by Nicaragua pursuant to Article 11.1 of the *Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures*, Article 6 of the *Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures*, Article XXII of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994* and Article 4 of the DSU, with respect to certain measures preventing the importation of black beans from Nicaragua. The relevant communication from the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the Permanent Mission of Mexico, dated 17 March 2003, was circulated to WTO Members on 20 March 2003 (WT/DS284/1; G/L/614; G/LIC/D/37; G/SPS/GEN/375).

Canada has both a commercial and systemic interest in the issues under consultation. As Mexico is Canada's fourth-largest trading partner and is a significant importer of beans from Canada, Canada has a substantial trade interest in these consultations. Moreover, Canada has a significant systemic interest in the proper interpretation of WTO disciplines applicable to quota allocation and general import procedures, as cited by Nicaragua in its request for consultations.
