

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - MEASURES AFFECTING THE APPROVAL
AND MARKETING OF BIOTECH PRODUCTS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Argentina

The following communication, dated 30 May 2003, from the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Canada and the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), I hereby notify you of the desire of the Government of the Argentine Republic to be joined in the consultations requested by the United States and Canada under Article 4 of the DSU, Article 11 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), Article 19 of the Agreement on Agriculture, Article 14 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) and Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) with regard to certain measures taken by the European Communities and its Member States affecting products of biotechnology (biotech products). The Communications from the Permanent Mission of the United States and the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, both dated 13 May 2003, were circulated to WTO Members on 20 May 2003 (WT/DS291/1 and WT/DS292/1 respectively).

The Argentine Republic, as a global producer and exporter of biotechnology products, has a systemic and substantial trade interest in these consultations and has requested its own consultations on this issue (WT/DS293/1).
