

WORLD TRADE

RESTRICTED

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ORGANIZATION

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AUSTRALIA - MEASURES AFFECTING THE IMPORTATION OF SALMONIDS

Request for Consultations by the United States

The following communication, dated 17 November 1995, from the Office of the United States Trade Representative to the Permanent Mission of Australia is circulated at the request of the Office of the United States Trade Representative.

My authorities have instructed me to request consultations with the Government of Australia pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"), Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and Article 11 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures regarding the prohibition by the Government of Australia on the importation of salmonids.

These measures prohibit imports of products from the United States and other Members of the World Trade Organization and raise questions concerning the obligations of the Government of Australia under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. The provisions of these agreements with which these measures appear to be inconsistent include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article XI; and
2. Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Articles 2 and 5.

We look forward to receiving as soon as possible your reply to this request and to fixing a mutually convenient date for consultations.