

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – MEASURES CONCERNING
MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS (HORMONES)**

Status Report by the European Communities

Addendum

The following communication, dated 11 May 1999, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 21.6 of the DSU.

Status Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations and Rulings
in the dispute regarding European Communities – Measures Concerning
Meat and Meat Products (Hormones)

Pursuant to Article 21.6 of the DSU, the European Community wishes to make the fifth status report to the DSB on the progress made towards implementing its rulings and recommendations of the DSB concerning the Community's prohibition on imports of bovine meat and meat products of animals treated with six growth hormones.

As we informed this Body already in January 1998, in light of the ruling of the Appellate Body, the Community initiated its reflections on how to implement the DSU rulings and recommendations. As a first step, the Community decided to launch without delay a complementary risk assessment, with a view to assessing the implications thereof for the Community's import prohibition.

Scientific evidence was submitted to the Commission by the independent Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures relating to Public Health (SCVPH) responsible for this issue on 30 April 1999. On the basis of that evidence, the Community is not in a position to lift its existing import ban by 13 May 1999. In addition a separate draft report focusing on control issues and problems of misuse has been prepared and sent for comments to the US and Canadian authorities.

The entire scientific information in question has been made publicly available and has in particular been shared with the US and Canada, in order to facilitate a thorough and transparent dialogue on this issue.

The Community now intends to study in more depth these results in order to evaluate on this basis and in the light of any new relevant information what steps may be necessary in light of our WTO rights and obligations.
