UNITED STATES - MEASURES AFFECTING ALCOHOLIC AND MALT BEVERAGES

Follow-up on the Panel Report

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 23 September 1994, has been received from the Office of the United States Trade Representative in Geneva with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

Pursuant to paragraph 1.3 of the 1989 Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (BISD 36S/61), the United States advises contracting parties of the status of implementation of the recommendations of the report of the Panel in "United States - Measures Affecting Alcoholic and Malt Beverages."

With regard to the federal measures, USTR worked extensively with tax and trade staff on relevant committees in both houses of the US Congress, and with concerned private parties, to formulate legislation to implement the panel's recommendations. The legislation would have been included in legislation implementing the results of the Uruguay Round agreements. In the process, USTR consulted on several occasions with officials of Canadian government on the outline as well as the details of possible legislation. Ultimately, the endeavour was not successful and legislation was not enacted.

With regard to state measures, the State of Michigan informed USTR that, as of July 1992, it eliminated the preferential excise tax treatment for wine produced from local ingredients. This change brings Michigan into full compliance with the Panel's recommendation.