

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – TRADE DESCRIPTION OF SARDINES

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 3 May 2001, from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Peru and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

This concerns the request for consultations by Peru with respect to "European Communities - Trade Description of Sardines", circulated on 23 April 2001 (WT/DS231/1). Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, my authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the desire of the United States to be joined in these consultations. The United States has a substantial trade interest in these consultations because they concern a regulation - Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2136/89 - that does not permit the species "sardinops sagax" to be marketed in the EC under the trade description "sardines". The species "sardinops sagax" is one that the United States harvests, lands, and exports in significant quantities.
