WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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

Request by the European Communities for Arbitration under Article 22.6 of the DSU

The following communication, dated 2 June 1999, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 22.6 of the DSU.

My authorities have requested me to inform you that, pursuant to Article 22.6 of the DSU, the European Communities object to the level of suspension proposed by the United States in document WT/DS26/19. The European Communities believe that the figure of US\$202 million of annual trade proposed by the United States is far higher than the actual level of nullification or impairment of benefits suffered by this Member because of the measures on meat and meat products maintained by the European Communities. The European Communities, therefore, request that this matter be referred to arbitration.

The European Communities also ask the arbitrators to request the United States to submit a list with proposed suspension of concessions equivalent to the level of nullification or impairment once this has been determined by the arbitrators in accordance with Article 22.7 of the DSU in conjunction with Article 22.4 of the DSU.