

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - EXPORT REFUNDS FOR WHEAT FLOUR

United States - Request for Consultations under Article XXII:1

A copy of the following communication, dated 24 July 1980 and addressed to the representative of the Commission of the European Communities, has been received from the United States Trade Representative, with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

On instruction from my authorities, I convey to you the request of the Government of the United States for consultations under Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade with the Commission of the European Communities concerning subsidies maintained by the European Communities on the export of wheat flour. Such subsidies continue to affect adversely United States exports of wheat flour and threaten further damage to United States trade interest.

The United States considers that wheat flour is a non-primary product, on which no export subsidy may be maintained under Article XVI of the General Agreement. The United States further notes that, even if wheat flour were considered a primary product within the meaning of Article XVI, the European Communities have applied subsidies on the export of wheat flour in a manner which has resulted in the members of the European Communities having more than an equitable share of world export trade in that product, contrary to the obligations of Article XVI.

The United States requests that these consultations be held at the earliest possible date and in accordance with understandings embodied in the Agreement Relating to the Framework for the Conduct of International Trade.

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