GENERAL AGREEMENT

ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
DS23/14
21 February 1994
Limited Distribution

(94-0336)

COUNCIL
22-23 February 1994

Original: English

UNITED STATES - MEASURES AFFECTING ALCOHOLIC AND MALT BEVERAGES

Follow-up on the Panel report

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 18 February 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 I.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".

Since the report was adopted, the United States has maintained intensive efforts to comply with the Panel's recommendations. These efforts have included consultations with the multiple states whose practices were cited in the Panel's recommendations.

Five states have enacted legislative changes in their practices in an effort to comply with the Panel's recommendations.

One state (South Carolina) has provided a clarification that its law does not in fact require foreign producers to distribute beer and wine via common carriers, and therefore accords equal treatment to imported and in-state products.

At least nine states have corrective legislation pending or are drafting legislation for future introduction.

A number of other states are actively considering methods to comply with the Panel's recommendations.

The United States will continue its efforts to make additional progress towards compliance with the Panel's recommendations, including through consultations at the federal level.