

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

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## JAPAN - BUSINESS PRACTICES AFFECTING CONSUMER PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM AND PAPER

### Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 5 July 1996, from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission to the Permanent Missions of the United States and Japan, is circulated to Members at the request of the European Communities.

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The United States on 13 June 1996 requested consultations with the Government of Japan concerning certain business practices in the Japanese consumer photographic film and paper markets that are considered to restrict competition in international trade for consumer photographic film and paper by adversely affecting the channels of distribution and limiting price competition in the Japanese market.

The consultations are requested pursuant to the Decision on "Restrictive Business Practices: Arrangements for Consultations" under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 as set forth in BISD 9S/28. This decision recommends that, at the request of any contracting party, a contracting party should enter into consultations on such practices on bilateral or multilateral basis as appropriate.

The European Community hereby requests that it be joined in the consultations under the Decision on "Restrictive Business Practices: Arrangements for Consultations". The European Community has considerable exports in consumer photographic film and paper to Japan, and therefore has an interest in the issues which will be discussed in the consultations.