

JAPAN - PROCUREMENT OF A NAVIGATION SATELLITE

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 9 April 1997, from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, the Permanent Mission of Japan and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, the United States Government hereby notifies the European Communities that, in light of the substantial trade interest of the United States, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by the European Communities in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 1 April 1997 (WT/DS73/1) entitled *Japan - Procurement of a Navigation Satellite*.

As a significant exporter of satellites and satellite systems integration programs, the United States has a substantial trade interest in the matter that is the subject of the Japanese request. In addition, the European Communities has raised issues relating to technical standards developed in the United States, which is indicative of our substantial trade interest.