

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**S/L/189**

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Trade in Services

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## COMMUNICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND ITS MEMBER STATES AND ECUADOR

### Agreement under Paragraph 4 of the Procedures for the Implementation of Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) (S/L/80)

The following communication, dated 26 October 2004, from the delegations of the European Communities and its Member States and Ecuador, is being circulated to the Members of the Council for Trade in Services.

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1. The following communication from the European Communities and its Member States and Ecuador to the Council for Trade in Services is circulated in accordance with paragraph 4 of the *Procedures for the implementation of Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)* (S/L/80), adopted by the Council for Trade in Services on 19 July 1999.
  2. On 28 May 2004 the European Communities and its Member States submitted a Communication pursuant to Article V of the GATS (circulated as document S/SECRET/8, dated 11 June 2004), whereby they notified the intention to modify or withdraw the specific commitments included in the list attached to the communication, pursuant to Article V:5 and in accordance with the terms of Article XXI:1(b). Following the submission of that Communication, Ecuador submitted a claim of interest pursuant to Article XXI:2(a) of the GATS.
  3. Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Hong Kong China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, Uruguay and the United States of America also notified claims of interest under the same provision.
  4. According to the Procedures for the implementation of Article XXI of the GATS (S/L/80), the period for negotiations, which should expire three months after the last date on which a claim of interest could have been made, may be extended by mutual agreement.
  5. The European Communities and its Member States, of the one part, and Ecuador, of the other part, hereby notify that they have mutually agreed to extend the period for negotiations mentioned above until 26 April 2005.
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