

**INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND  
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

Notification from the European Communities

The following communication, dated 23 October 2001, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission with the request that it be circulated to Members.

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The delegation of the European Communities has the honour to inform the Members of the WTO that the Interim Agreement on Trade and Trade-related Matters between the European Community and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia entered into force on 1 June 2001.<sup>1</sup> The Agreement contains provisions relating to trade in goods that are of relevance to the Members of the WTO.

The Interim Agreement on Trade and Trade-related Matters establishes a free-trade area between the European Communities and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the sense of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994. This free-trade area will be established over a maximum period of ten years, commencing on 1 June 2001, at the end of which duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce will have been eliminated on substantially all the trade between the parties.

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<sup>1</sup> The text of the Agreement is circulated in document WT/REG129/1. The text of the Agreement is also published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, OJ L 124 of 4 May 2001, and can also be found at the Europa web site, [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/lif/dat/2001/en\\_201A0504\\_01.html](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/lif/dat/2001/en_201A0504_01.html)