

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

# TARIFFS AND TRADE

DS17/1

4 July 1990

Limited Distribution

---

Original: English

CANADA - DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES OF PROVINCIAL LIQUOR BOARDS  
AFFECTING BEER IMPORTS

Request for Consultations under Article XXIII:1  
by the United States

The following communication, dated 29 June 1990, sent by the United States Trade Representative in Geneva to the Permanent Representative of Canada in Geneva, is circulated in accordance with paragraph C.3 of the CONTRACTING PARTIES' 1989 Decision on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (L/6489).

---

On instructions from my authorities, I wish to convey to you the request of the United States for consultations under Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade concerning Canadian restrictions affecting imports of beer.

It is our understanding that most of the discriminatory practices of provincial liquor boards affecting beer imports in Canada that were found inconsistent with the General Agreement by a panel in 1988 (L/6304) remain in place. These practices, including discriminatory price mark-ups and restrictions on the points of sale and on listing, nullify and impair benefits accruing to the United States under the General Agreement. The Government of Canada has not, in our view, taken such reasonable measures as may be available to it to ensure observance of the provisions of the General Agreement by the provincial liquor boards.

Therefore, we request that consultations on this matter be held pursuant to Article XXIII:1 within the next ten days. We are willing to hold the consultations in Geneva, Ottawa or Washington.