

September 8, 2009

### **Canada Requested Dispute Settlement Panel at WTO**

Canada has requested dispute settlement panel against Korea as Korea's Act on the Prevention of Livestock Epidemics violates WTO regulations. The Act revised since Sept 2008 after the BSE outbreak in the US and under the revision, beef older than 30 months cannot be imported from the countries with a history/outbreak of BSE within the past 5 years.

Negotiations has been conducted for the last few years after the ban of Canadian beef in 2003 and other efforts have been deployed after Canada filed a Request for Consultations with Korea at the WTO in last April. The agreement has not been reached after 60 days of negotiation at the WTO.

The panel will be formed by member countries of the WTO with one third country participation in the settlement procedure but the process can be stopped if the two reach an agreement.

Source : The Alberta Korea Office

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