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CHINA – CERTAIN MEASURES ON THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 18 January 2019, from the delegation of the United States to the delegation of China, and the delegation of the European Union, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

This concerns the request for consultations by the European Union on *China – Certain Measures on the Transfer of Technology*, circulated on 8 January 2019 (WT/DS549/1/Rev.1). My authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the United States to be joined in these consultations, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes*.

The United States has a substantial trade interest in these consultations. They concern certain measures of China related to the ability of foreign intellectual property rights holders to protect their intellectual property rights in China on which the United States has also requested consultations (WT/DS542/1). The consultations also concern measures related to the access and operation of foreign investment. By 2017, the U.S. foreign direct investment (FDI) stock in China exceeded \$256 billion.
