WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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NICARAGUA – MEASURES AFFECTING IMPORTS FROM HONDURAS AND COLOMBIA

Request for Consultations by Honduras

The following communication, dated 6 June 2000, from the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

In accordance with the provisions of GATT Article XXII, GATS Article XXII and Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, (DSU), the Government of Honduras requests consultations with the Government of Nicaragua concerning Law 325 of 1999 establishing a tax on goods and services coming from or originating in Honduras or Colombia, as well as Implementing Decree 129-99 and Ministerial Order 041-99.

The Government of Honduras considers that the measures established under Law 325 Establishing a Tax on Goods and Services Coming from or Originating in Honduras or Colombia, and Implementing Decree 129-99 are inconsistent with the obligations of the Government of Nicaragua under the GATT 1994, in particular Articles I and II thereof, and that these provisions and Ministerial Order 041-99 are inconsistent with Articles II and XVI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and nullify or impair the benefits accruing to Honduras under these provisions of the GATT 1994 and the GATS.

We should appreciate a prompt reply concerning the holding of these consultations, as well as an indication of the date and place to be established by mutual agreement. As you know, the consultations must take place within a period of no more than 30 days from the submission of this request.