WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Market Access

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DISSEMINATION OF THE INTEGRATED DATA BASE (IDB) AND THE CONSOLIDATED TARIFF SCHEDULES (CTS) DATABASE

Communication from the African Union on Dissemination of the Integrated Database (IDB) and the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) Database

The following communication, dated 4 October 2006, is being circulated at the request of the African Union.

Pursuant to the measure envisaged in paragraph 5 of document G/MA/115 concerning the dissemination of the Integrated Database (IDB) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), approved by the WTO Committee on Market Access on 12 June 2002, the African Union presents its compliments and has the honour to request access for the African Union Secretariat to the IDB and to the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) Database. The African Union Secretariat undertakes to use and publish the information contained in these databases in accordance with the terms and conditions laid out in document G/MA/115.

As Members of the Committee are aware, the African Union has observer status in the Committee on Trade and Development. As a Secretariat of the African Union, it has the responsibility to assist African Union Member States, who are Members and Observers of the WTO, to participate effectively in the regional, bilateral, plurilateral, and multilateral trading arrangements in which they are involved.

As outlined in the Dissemination Modalities (Section D, paragraph 9 of G/MA/115), the undersigned, who will be the focal point, will be responsible for receiving the IDB access passwords and controlling their use within the organization.

I would be appreciated if our request could be forwarded to the Committee on Market Access for its consideration.