

**MEXICO – DEFINITIVE COUNTERVAILING MEASURES ON OLIVE OIL
FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 14 November 2007, addressed to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

Article 12.8 of the DSU provides that the period in which a panel shall conduct its examination, from the date that the composition and terms of reference of the panel have been agreed upon until the date the final report is issued to the parties to the dispute, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU provides that, when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the DSB in writing of the reasons for the delay, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *Mexico – Definitive Countervailing Measures on Olive Oil from the European Communities* (WT/DS341) was established by the DSB on 23 January 2007, and composed on 21 February 2007.

Due to the complexity of issues presented in this case as well as the need to translate the parties' submissions, the Panel is not able to complete its work within six months from the date of the Panel's composition. The Panel expects to issue its final report to the parties to the dispute by April 2008.
