

ARGENTINA – MEASURES AFFECTING THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from the United States

The following communication, dated 31 August 2012, from the delegation of the United States to the delegation of Argentina, the delegation of Japan and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

This concerns the request for consultations by Japan on *Argentina – Measures Affecting the Importation of Goods*, circulated to Members on 23 August 2012 (WT/DS445/1). 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 related to the importation of goods into Argentine on which the United States has also requested consultations (WT/DS444/1). US goods account for a substantial share of Argentina's imports,¹ and Argentina's measures affect virtually all goods imported into Argentina.

¹ From 2009 to 2011, the average yearly value of Argentine imports from the United States was USD 6.4 billion, which represents approximately 12 per cent of Argentine imports over that period.