

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Regional Trade Agreements

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FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROMANIA AND SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Notification from Romania

The following communication, dated 4 February 2005, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Romania.

The Permanent Mission of Romania to the Office of the United Nations and the International Organizations in Geneva pursuant to Article XXIV:7(a) of GATT 1994 and the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of GATT 1994, has the honour to inform the Members of the WTO that a Free Trade Agreement between Romania and Serbia and Montenegro as signed on 23 December 2003 entered into force on 1 July 2004.¹

The Free Trade Agreement contains provisions relating to trade in goods that are of relevance to the Members of the WTO.

The Agreement provides for the gradual establishment of a free-trade area between Romania and Serbia and Montenegro, in the sense of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994 and the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of GATT 1994, over a transitional period, ending on December 31st, 2006. At the end of the transitional period, all duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce will be eliminated on substantially all trade between the signatories.

Both Parties wish to express their willingness to contribute actively to the process of examination in accordance with the existing procedures in force on the date of this notification.

¹ The text of the Agreement will be circulated in document WT/REG192/1. The associated Annexes have been submitted to the Secretariat for consultation by interested Members (office 1174).