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Committee on Safeguards

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**IMPOSITION OF A SAFEGUARD MEASURE BY THE UNITED STATES
ON IMPORTS OF STEEL**

**REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 12.3
OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

CHINA

The following communication, dated 26 March 2018, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of China.

On 8 March 2018, the United States of America ("United States") issued a presidential proclamation, indicating that steel articles are being imported into the United States in such quantities and under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security of the United States, adjust the imports of steel articles by imposing a 10% *ad valorem* tariff on steel articles.

China takes the view that the above-mentioned measure of the United States is safeguard measure although it's in the name of national security measure.

As a Member that is an interest party of the product at issue, The People's Republic of China ("China" or "we") hereby formally requests consultations with the United States pursuant to Article 12.3 and 8.1 of the Safeguards Agreement and Article XIX:2 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) with respect to the United States' safeguard measures on steel.

We believe the measures taken by the United States are not consistent with its obligations under the relevant provisions of the GATT 1994 and Safeguards Agreement.

In accordance with Article 8.1 of the Safeguards Agreement, China also is exercising its right to trade compensation consultations. However, in the process of these consultations, China reserves the right to raise additional issues, make further factual and legal arguments, and pursue any other remedies provided for under the Safeguards Agreement and the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes.

China looks forward to receiving a prompt reply to this request from the United States and to setting a mutually convenient date and venue for the consultations mentioned above.
