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ARGENTINA – MEASURES AFFECTING THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 5 May 2014, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body.

Article 12.8 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (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 Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in writing accordingly and indicate the reasons, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *Argentina – Measures Affecting the Importation of Goods* (WT/DS438, WT/DS444, WT/DS445) was established by the DSB on 28 January 2013 and composed on 27 May 2013. In its communication to the DSB of 15 November 2013 (WT/DS438/13, WT/DS444/12, WT/DS445/12), the Panel indicated that it expected to issue its final report to the parties by the end of May 2014. However, it will not be possible for the Panel to issue its final report to the parties by that time, due to the complexity of the dispute and the large volume of evidence.

The Panel estimates that it will issue its final report to the parties by the end of June 2014, in accordance with the revised timetable adopted after consultation with the parties.
