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Page: 1/1

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UNITED STATES – COUNTERVAILING MEASURES ON SUPERCALENDERED PAPER FROM CANADA

COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

The following communication, dated 16 April 2020, was received from the delegation of Canada with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

The Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) adopted the recommendations of the panel and Appellate Body in US – Supercalendered Paper (DS505) on 5 March 2020. Pursuant to Article 21.3 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU), the United States must inform the DSB of its intentions in respect of implementation of those recommendations. It is Canada's understanding that the United States has not done so.

Canada assumes that the relevant time frames under DSU Article 22 with respect to this dispute will be interpreted in the light of the current suspension of all WTO meetings, including DSB meetings, until the end of April 2020 and potentially beyond that time. While the DSU provides that the DSB shall meet as often as necessary to carry out its functions within the time frames provided in the DSU, Canada understands that there is currently no means for the DSB to do so.

In view of these circumstances, Canada informs you that it intends to request authorization from the DSB, with respect to US – *Supercalendered Paper*, to suspend the application to the United States of concessions in accordance with Article 22 of the DSU at the next DSB meeting held after the end of the current suspension of such meetings.

Canada has already communicated its intentions to the United States so as to provide it with an opportunity to comment on this proposed course of action before 12:00p.m. CEST on 17 April 2020. In addition, Canada has indicated that it remains at the U.S. disposition to discuss a mutually agreed solution with respect to this dispute.

Canada requests that this communication be circulated to the Members of the DSB.