



CHINA – ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 17 March 2023, was received from the Chairman of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

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 *China – Anti-Dumping Measures on Stainless Steel Products from Japan* (DS601) was established by the DSB on 27 September 2021 and composed on 24 January 2022.

On 27 June 2022, the Panel informed the DSB that due to the complexity and magnitude of the case and the need to ensure that the parties have sufficient time to prepare and present their cases, particularly given the challenges caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic, it expected to issue its final report to the parties by the first quarter of 2023. The Panel now expects to issue its final report to the parties in May 2023.

The report will only be available to the public once it is circulated to the Members in all three working languages of the WTO. The date of circulation depends on completion of translation and the Panel is not in a position to provide an estimated circulation date at this time.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this letter to the DSB.
