

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES ON MALLEABLE  
CAST IRON TUBE OR PIPE FITTINGS FROM BRAZIL**

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 3 May 2002, addressed to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 12.9 of the DSU.

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Article 12.8 of the DSU stipulates 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 that the final report is issued to the parties, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU states that when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the DSB in writing of the reasons for the delay, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *European Communities - Anti-Dumping Duties on Malleable Cast Iron Tube or Pipe Fittings from Brazil (WT/DS219)* was established by the DSB on 24 July 2001 and composed on 5 September 2001. The Panel agreed to the joint requests from both parties to suspend its work as of 15 January 2002<sup>1</sup>. The Panel has resumed its work on 22 April 2002 in accordance with Brazil's request.

It will not be possible for the Panel to complete its work in six months in light of, *inter alia*, scheduling conflicts.

The Panel expects to complete its work in December 2002, depending on translation.

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<sup>1</sup> See documents WT/DS219/4 and WT/DS219/5.