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**Council for Trade in Goods
Committee on Safeguards**

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**IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION TO THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS OF THE RESULTS OF
THE CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 12.3**

JOINT COMMUNICATION OF JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES

*Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells
(Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled into Other Products)*

The following communication, dated 6 April 2018, is being circulated at the request of the Delegations of Japan and the United States.

Pursuant to Article 12.5 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (Safeguards Agreement), Japan and the United States are notifying the results of the consultations conducted under Article 12.3 of the Safeguards Agreement. Documents G/SG/N/8/USA/9 (dated 4 October 2017), G/SG/N/8/USA/9/Suppl.3 (dated 8 January 2018), and G/SG/N/8/USA/9/Suppl.4-G/SG/N/10/USA/7-G/SG/N/11/USA/6 (dated 26 January 2018) contain notifications from the United States concerning measures taken under the Safeguards Agreement concerning crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products (solar products).

On 20 February 2018, Japan and the United States conducted consultations with a view to discuss the information provided in the above-mentioned documents related to the safeguard measure on solar products, exchange views on the safeguard measure, and reach an understanding on ways to achieve the objective set out in paragraph 1 of Article 8 of the Safeguards Agreement. Japan and the United States discussed the relevant information and exchanged views on the measure. They have agreed to continue these discussions and that their reciprocal rights and obligations under the Safeguards Agreement and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 will be maintained. For this purpose, they have further agreed that the 90-day period set forth in Article 8.2 of the Safeguards Agreement and Article XIX:3(a) of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 shall be considered to expire as between them on 6 February 2022.
