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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 THE EUROPEAN UNION AND SWITZERLAND

Certain steel products

The following communication, dated 30 April 2019, is being circulated at the request of the Delegations of the European Union and Switzerland.

Pursuant to Article 12.5 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (Safeguards Agreement), the European Union and Switzerland are notifying the results of the consultations conducted under Article 12.3 of the Safeguards Agreement. Documents G/SG/N/6/EU/1 (dated 27 March 2018), G/SG/N/6/EU/1/Suppl.1 (dated 29 June 2018), G/SG/N/7/EU/1 and G/SG/N/11/EU/1 (dated 18 July 2018), G/SG/N/8/EU/1 - G/SG/N/10/EU/1 - G/SG/N/11/EU/1/Suppl.1 (dated 4 January 2019) G/SG/N/8/EU/1/Suppl.1 - G/SG/N/10/EU/1/Suppl.1 - G/SG/N/11/EU/1/Suppl.2 (dated 7 February 2019) contain notifications from the European Union concerning measures taken under the Safeguards Agreement concerning certain steel products.

On 14 January 2019, the European Union and Switzerland conducted consultations with a view to discuss the information provided in the above-mentioned documents, dated 4 January 2019, related to the safeguard measure on certain steel products. The European Union and Switzerland discussed the relevant information and exchanged views on the measure.

Switzerland recalled that on account of close economic integration of markets, it considers that Swiss imports should be excluded from the measures, in line with the exclusion of products originating in certain other countries. Switzerland requested that any potential measures do not disrupt existing trade flows. Switzerland highlighted that the exhaustion of the provisional quotas for certain product categories had already negatively affected its interests. Therefore, Switzerland requested that the safeguard measures be designed so as to limit/have the minimal adverse trade effects. Lastly, Switzerland called for a close cooperation with regard to potential changes in circumstances that could be subject to the review clause.

The European Union took note of Switzerland's comments, explained the reasons why it could not be excluded from the measures and provided Switzerland with the required clarifications about the measures.

Switzerland reserved its right to request compensation pursuant to Article 8 paragraph 1 of the Agreement on Safeguards. The European Union took note of this point.