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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**

COMMUNICATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Certain steel products

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

Pursuant to Article 12.5 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (Safeguards Agreement), the European Union and the Russian Federation 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 15 January 2019, the European Union and the Russian Federation conducted consultations with a view to discuss the information provided in the above-mentioned document, dated 4 January 2019, related to the safeguard measure on certain steel products. The European Union and the Russian Federation discussed the relevant information and exchanged views on the measure.

The Russian Federation contested the legality of the measures and claimed that the analysis should have been carried out on a product category basis. The Russian Federation noted that the provisional tariff-rate quota (TRQ) had only been exhausted for very few product categories and therefore this would show that trade diversion was not taking place. The Russian Federation suggested that the year 2018 should have been taken into account for calculating the volume of TRQs. The Russian Federation inquired about some aspects related to the implementation of the measures. Lastly, the Russian Federation asked the European Union to engage in regular contacts to address this issue and any other issue that would call for a review of definitive measures.

The European Union disagreed with the views of the Russian Federation with regard to the legality of the measures, the time period used for calculating the TRQ and the general approach used in the assessment. The European Union provided all the requested clarifications on the practical aspects of the measures required.

The Russian Federation 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.
