

**ARGENTINA – DEFINITIVE SAFEGUARD MEASURE
ON IMPORTS OF PRESERVED PEACHES**

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 15 October 2002, addressed to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

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 *Argentina - Definitive Safeguard Measure on Imports of Preserved Peaches* (WT/DS238) was established by the DSB on 18 January 2002 and composed on 16 April 2002.

It will not, however, be possible for the Panel to complete its work in six months due to the schedule agreed with the parties.

The Panel expects to complete its work by the end of January 2003.
