

UNITED STATES – ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON CEMENT FROM MEXICO

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 1 March 2005, addressed to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, 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 Dispute Settlement Body (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 *United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Cement from Mexico* (WT/DS281) was established by the DSB on 29 August 2003, and the Director-General composed the Panel on 3 September 2004, with the formalities in composing the Panel being completed on 8 September 2004.

It will not be possible for the Panel to complete its work within six months of the date of composition, *inter alia* due to the large number of claims involved, the complexity of the issues and certain postponements in the Panel's timetable.

The Panel hopes to complete its work by the end of October 2005.
