



25 February 2015

(15-1108)

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Original: English

**UNITED STATES – CERTAIN METHODOLOGIES AND THEIR APPLICATION
TO ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING CHINA**

Communication from the Chairperson of the Panel

The following communication, dated 23 February 2015, addressed to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

Article 12.8 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) provides 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 the final report is issued to the parties to the dispute, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU provides that, when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in writing accordingly and indicate the reasons, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *United States – Certain Methodologies and Their Application to Anti-dumping Proceedings Involving China* (WT/DS471) was established by the DSB on 26 March 2014 and composed on 28 August 2014.

The start of the proceedings was deferred owing to the unavailability of Secretariat lawyers to assist the panel. The Organizational meeting was held on 10 February 2015. Pursuant to the timetable adopted by the Panel, after consulting the parties and in light of the amount and complexity of the work involved, the Panel expects to issue its final report to the parties by 6 June 2016.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this letter to the Members of the DSB.
