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**COLOMBIA – MEASURES RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION
OF TEXTILES, APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 4 November 2014, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body.

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 *Colombia – Measures Relating to the Importation of Textiles, Apparel and Footwear* (WT/DS461) was established by the DSB on 25 September 2013 and composed on 15 January 2014.

The start of the proceedings was deferred owing to the unavailability of senior Secretariat lawyers. The Panel therefore expects to issue its final report to the parties in August 2015 at the latest.
