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INDIA - CERTAIN MEASURES ON IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from the Russian Federation

The following communication, dated 18 January 2017, from the delegation of the Russian Federation to the delegation of India, the delegation of Japan and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I wish to refer to the consultations requested by Japan pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"), Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, and Article 14 of the Agreement on Safeguard in the communication circulated to WTO Members on 9 January (WT/DS518/1; G/L/1172; G/GS/D49/1) titled "*India — Certain Measures on Importation of Iron and Steel Products* (DS518)". My authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the Russian Federation to be joined in these consultations, pursuant to the Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The Russian Federation notes that the request for consultations relates to the application of safeguard measures on imports of hot-rolled flat products of non-alloy and other alloy steel in coils of a width of 600 mm or more and the minimum import price system on certain iron and steel products. The products subject to the measures at issue are also exported from Russia to India. In 2015 the amount of relevant Russian exports exceeded 181 million US dollars. Following India's application of the measures at issue, Russian exports of the relevant product to India decreased by almost 38% in 2016 and amounted to 113 million US dollars.

Therefore, the Russian Federation has a substantial trade interest in consultations in the above dispute.
