

**UNITED STATES – DEFINITIVE SAFEGUARD MEASURES
ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN STEEL PRODUCTS**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Japan

The following communication, dated 21 November 2002, from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the Permanent Mission of the United States, the Permanent Representative of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, and to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of Japan hereby notifies the Government of the United States that, in light of the substantial trade interest of Japan, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 11 November 2002 (WT/DS274/1, G/L/584, G/SG/D29/1) titled "*United States – Definitive Safeguard Measures on Imports of Certain Steel Products*".

As a major exporter of steel products to the United States, Japan has a substantial trade interest in this case.
