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**SAUDI ARABIA – MEASURES CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY RIGHTS**

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from the Russian Federation

The following communication, dated 12 October 2018, from the delegation of the Russian Federation to the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the delegation of Qatar, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I wish to refer to the consultations requested by Qatar pursuant to Articles 4 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* ("DSU") and Article 64.1 of the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights* ("TRIPS Agreement") concerning Saudi Arabia's failure to provide adequate protection of intellectual property rights, as stated in Qatar's communication circulated to WTO Members on 4 October 2018 (WT/DS567/1, IP/D/40) titled "*Saudi Arabia – Measures Concerning the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights*" (DS567). My authorities instructed me to notify pursuant to Article 4.11 of the DSU the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the Russian Federation to be joined in these consultations.

The Russian Federation has systemic interest in the matter in question. Moreover, Russia is interested in developing the broadcasting network of Russian TV channels in the region. Thus, the challenged measures has significant effect on Russia's trade interests.

Therefore, the Russian Federation has substantial trade interest in these consultations.
