

KOREA – MEASURES AFFECTING GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 25 January 2000, addressed to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the DSU.

Article XXII:6 of the Agreement on Government Procurement stipulates that, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 12 of the DSU, the Panel shall attempt to provide its final report to the parties to the dispute not later than four months, and in case of delay not later than seven months, after the date on which the composition and terms of reference of the Panel are agreed.

The DSB established the Panel on *Korea – Measures Affecting Government Procurement* and determined its terms of reference on 16 June 1999. The Panel was composed on 30 August 1999. I wish to inform you that, in spite of the effort made to accelerate the proceedings to the greatest extent possible, the Panel has not been able to complete its work within the four months provided for in the Agreement. The complex nature of the matters as well as certain logistical and scheduling difficulties are responsible for the delay.

The Panel intends to circulate its final report by the end of April 2000.
