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UNITED STATES – CERTAIN MEASURES ON STEEL AND ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from Japan

The following communication, dated 8 June 2018, from the delegation of Japan to the delegation of the United States, and the delegation of the European Union, 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 the European Union pursuant to Article 1 and 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 Safeguards in the communication circulated to WTO Members on 6 June 2018, entitled "United States—Certain Measures on Steel and Aluminum Products" (WT/DS548/1, G/L/1243, G/SG/D54/1). My authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of Japan to be joined in these consultations, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The measures at issue are the import adjustments on certain steel and aluminium products, including additional import duties. Japan notes that the additional import duties in question, which took effect on 23 March 2018 also apply to certain imports of steel and aluminium products from Japan. Japan is a major producer and exporter of steel and aluminium products and in fiscal year 2017 its export to the United States amounted to 1,659,281,106 US dollars for steel products and 251,227,373 US dollars for aluminium products respectively. Therefore, as one of the major steel and aluminium exporters to the United States, Japan has a substantial trade interest in these consultations.

Japan looks forward to receiving confirmation of acceptance of this request as well as being informed of the date and venue of these consultations.
