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## UNITED STATES – TARIFF MEASURES ON CERTAIN GOODS FROM CHINA

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES

The following communication, dated 16 July 2018, was received from the delegation of the United States with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

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On 6 July 2018, the United States received China's letter of the same date requesting consultations pursuant to Article 4 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* ("DSU") and Article XXIII of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*. The letter has been circulated as WT/DS543/1/Add.1.

To the extent China's request for consultations addresses proposed measures, such proposals are not "measures affecting the operation of any covered agreement taken within the territory of" a Member within the meaning of DSU Article 4.2. Without prejudice as to whether each matter referenced in China's request for consultations is a measure within the meaning of DSU Article 4.2, the United States accepts the request of China to enter into consultations.

The United States takes note that on 16 June 2018, the Government of China issued the *State Council Customs Tariff Commission Public Notice on Additionally Imposing Tariffs on \$50 Billion of Imported Products Originating from the United States* (State Council Customs Tariff Commission 2018 Public Notice No. 5). Through this legal instrument, the Government of China announced two lists of tariff subheadings that would be used to impose an additional 25 per cent ad valorem duty on US goods. One list, containing 545 tariff subheadings, was assigned an effective date of 6 July 2018.

On 6 July 2018, the Government of China confirmed that it had imposed additional duties on an initial list of US products, with a purported annual trade value of \$34 billion.

At the consultations, the United States looks forward to hearing China's justification for deciding to impose these additional tariffs. We stand ready to confer with officials from your mission on a mutually convenient date for these consultations.

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