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CANADA – MEASURES GOVERNING THE SALE OF WINE

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from Argentina

The following communication, dated 25 January 2018, from the delegation of Argentina to the delegation of Canada, the delegation of Australia and the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of the Argentine Republic hereby notifies the Government of Canada, the Government of Australia and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in light of its substantial trade interest, it wishes to join the consultations with Canada that were requested by Australia in its communication of 16 January 2018 in *Canada – Measures Governing the Sale of Wine* (WT/DS537/1).

Argentina would like to recall that like Australia, it asked to be joined in the consultations in *Canada – Measures Governing the Sale of Wine in Grocery Stores* for both the first complaint (DS520) and the second complaint (DS531), and that it participated in both cases through the presence of officials from its capital and from its embassy in Ottawa respectively. The reasons for the present request are the same as those in the above-mentioned cases.

As an exporting Member of wines and related products, Argentina has a substantial trade interest in this dispute. Canada was the second and third largest export market for Argentine wines (in terms of both f.o.b. value and hectolitres) in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively. The Canadian measures that are to be the subject of consultations are directly related to the marketing of wine of foreign origin, including Argentine wine. Argentina is also concerned about the possible systemic implications of such measures for international trade in agricultural products.

In view of the above, and mindful of the rights and obligations of WTO Members under Article 4.11 of the DSU, Argentina looks forward to receiving your reply, together with details regarding the date and venue of the consultations.
