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CHINA – TAX MEASURES CONCERNING CERTAIN DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED AIRCRAFT

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from Japan

The following communication, dated 21 December 2015, from the delegation of Japan to the delegation of China, the delegation of the United States and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I wish to refer to the consultations requested by the United States pursuant to Articles 1 and 4 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* ("DSU") and Article XXII:1 of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994* in the request for consultations by the United States circulated to WTO Members on 10 December 2015 titled "*China - Tax Measures Concerning Certain Domestically Produced Aircraft*" (as WTO document WT/DS501/1, G/L/1141). 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 paragraph 11 of Article 4 of the DSU.

Japan is a major supplier of aircraft parts to the world,¹ and in particular to the United States, one of the biggest aircraft producing countries in the world.² The measures identified in the request for consultations by the United States appear to adversely affect international trade of aircraft parts originating from Japan which are used for manufacturing aircrafts destined for China. Therefore, as a major supplier of aircraft parts to the world including the United States, Japan has a substantial trade interest in the consultations.

¹ In 2014, the total value of exports of aircraft parts (HS Code 88.03) from Japan to the world was 4.68 billion US dollars (calculated at the exchange rate of 1 USD = 122.33 JPY as of 16 December 2015. Source: Statistics of the Ministry of Finance of Japan. The original currency of the statistics is Japanese Yen.).

² In 2014, the total value of exports of aircraft parts (HS Code 88.03) from Japan to the United States amounted to 3.8 billion US dollars (calculated at the exchange rate of 1 USD = 122.33 JPY as of 16 December 2015. Source: Statistics of the Ministry of Finance of Japan. The original currency of the statistics is Japanese Yen.).