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UNITED STATES – CERTAIN MEASURES ON STEEL AND ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from the European Union

The following communication, dated 23 July 2018, from the delegation of the European Union to the delegation of the United States, and the delegation of Switzerland, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body 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 European Union (the EU) hereby notifies the Government of the United States, the Government of Switzerland, and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in the light of its substantial trade interest, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by Switzerland in a communication circulated to WTO Members on 12 July 2018 (WT/DS556/1; G/L/1251; G/SG/D59/1), entitled "United States – Certain measures on steel and aluminium products".

The EU notes that the request for consultations relates to measures applied by the United States since 23 March 2018 to certain imports of steel and aluminium products also from Switzerland. In 2017, the EU has been exporting to the United States steel products of the types covered by the measures of a total value of EUR 5.30 billion or USD 5.99 billion, and aluminium products of the types covered by the measures of a total value of EUR 1.11 billion or USD 1.25 billion, making the EU the first and fifth exporter to the United States of steel and aluminium, respectively. EU exports are also covered and impaired significantly by the United States measures since 1 June 2018. Therefore, the United States' measures have a substantial impact on the sale and exportation of EU steel and aluminium products covered by the United States' measures, giving the EU a substantial trade interest in these consultations.
