

**AUSTRALIA – CERTAIN MEASURES CONCERNING TRADEMARKS,  
GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND OTHER PLAIN PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS  
APPLICABLE TO TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING**

Request to Join Consultations

*Communication from Guatemala*

The following communication, dated 25 July 2012, from the delegation of Guatemala to the delegation of Australia, the delegation of the Dominican Republic and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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In accordance with Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (the "DSU"), the Government of Guatemala hereby notifies its desire to join in the consultations requested by the Dominican Republic concerning certain Australian laws and regulations that impose trademark restrictions and other plain packaging requirements on tobacco products and packaging.

The request for consultations to Australia from the Dominican Republic, dated 18 July 2012, was circulated to the WTO Members on 23 July 2012 as document WT/DS441/1, IP/D/32, G/TBT/D/41, G/L/992.

Guatemala has a substantial trade interest in these consultations, as it exports more than US 54 millions of tobacco and tobacco products. Additionally, Guatemala has a systemic interest in public health issues; in particular, how Members reconcile their obligations under the WTO Agreements and the achievement of their own legitimate objectives.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, with a request that it be circulated to the Members. Looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering this request.

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