

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

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 2 August 2012, from the delegation of Canada to the delegation of Australia, the delegation of Dominican Republic and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

In accordance with Article 4.11 of the *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (DSU), the Government of Canada hereby notifies its desire to join in the consultations requested by the Dominican Republic under Article 4 of the DSU, Article XXII of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*, Article 64.1 of the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights* and Article 14.1 of the *Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade* with respect to certain Australian measures relating to trademarks, geographical indications and other plain packaging requirements applicable to tobacco products and packaging.

The relevant communication from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic, dated 18 July 2012, was circulated to WTO Members on 23 July 2012, as *Australia – Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (WT/DS441/1, G/L/992).

Canada has a substantial trade interest in these proceedings as an importer of tobacco products and the interpretation of WTO obligations in this dispute could materially affect Canadian domestic measures. Accordingly, Canada requests to join in these consultations.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body with a request that it be circulated to Members.
