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INDIA – MEASURES CONCERNING SUGAR AND SUGARCANE

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from the Russian Federation

The following communication, dated 29 March 2019, from the delegation of the Russian Federation to the delegation of India, and the delegation of Guatemala, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

I wish to refer to the consultations requested by the Republic of Guatemala pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"), Article 19 of the Agreement on Agriculture, Articles 4 and 30 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 in the communication circulated to WTO Members on 25 March 2019 (WT/DS581/1, G/AG/GEN/153, G/SCM/D125/1, G/L/1302) titled "*India – Measures Concerning Sugar and Sugarcane (DS581)*". My authorities have instructed me to notify the consulting Members and the Dispute Settlement Body of the desire of the Russian Federation to be joined in these consultations, pursuant to the Article 4.11 of the DSU.

The Russian Federation notes that the request for consultations relates to (a) the various domestic support measures maintained by India in favour of producers of sugarcane and sugar, and (b) export subsidies for sugarcane and sugar.

The Russian Federation is one of the major exporters and consumers of sugar. In 2018 the amount of relevant Russian exports to Central Asia exceeded 417 thousand tons. India's application of the measures at issue may have direct effect on Russian exports of the relevant products.

Therefore, the Russian Federation has a substantial trade interest in consultations in the above dispute.
