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**UNITED STATES – SAFEGUARD MEASURE ON IMPORTS OF  
CRYSTALLINE SILICON PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTS**

**REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS**

*Communication from the European Union*

The following communication, dated 24 August 2018, from the delegation of the European Union to the delegation of the United States, and the delegation of China, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

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Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, the European Union (the EU) hereby notifies the Government of United States, the Government of the People's Republic of China, and the Dispute Settlement Body that, in the light of its substantial trade interest, it desires to be joined in the consultations requested by the People's Republic of China in a communication circulated to the WTO Members on 16 August 2018 (WT/DS562/1, G/L/1257, G/SG/D60/1), entitled "United States – Safeguard Measure on Imports of Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Products".

The EU notes that the request for consultations relates to the definitive safeguard measure imposed by the United States on imports of certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products (including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels, and building-integrated materials) ("crystalline silicon photovoltaic products"). The investigation that resulted in this measure involved at the same time imports into the United States from the EU. In addition, the EU is a major producer and exporter of these products to the United States with imports into the United States of around USD220 million per year based on the average of the last three years of the investigation period, i.e. 2014-2016. Therefore, the EU has a substantial trade interest in these consultations.

The European Union looks forward to hearing a response to this request.

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