

MEXICO – MEASURES AFFECTING TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 13 March 2003, addressed to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

Article 12.8 of the DSU stipulates that the period in which a panel shall conduct its examination, from the date that the composition and terms of reference of the panel have been agreed upon until the date that the final report is issued to the parties, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU states that when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the DSB in writing of the reasons for the delay, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *Mexico – Measures Affecting Telecommunications Services* (WT/DS204) was established by the DSB on 17 April 2002 and composed on 29 August 2002.

It will not be possible for the Panel to complete its work in six months due to the time needed for translation into Spanish and English of all relevant documents and the complexity of the issues involved.

In conformity with the changes to the timetable for Panel work agreed with the parties at the second substantive meeting of the Panel, the Panel expects to complete its work in August 2003.
