## WORLD TRADE

## **ORGANIZATION**

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## THAILAND – CUSTOMS AND FISCAL MEASURES ON CIGARETTES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Status Report by Thailand

## Addendum

The following communication, dated 14 June 2012, from the delegation of Thailand to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 21.6 of the DSU.

Status Report Regarding Implementation of the
DSB Recommendations and Rulings in the Dispute

Thailand – Customs and Fiscal Measures on Cigarettes from the Philippines
(WT/DS371)

Thailand submits this report in accordance with Article 21.6 of the *Understanding on Rules* and *Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* ("DSU").

At its meeting on 15 July 2011, the Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") adopted the Appellate Body report on *Thailand – Customs and Fiscal Measures on Cigarettes from the Philippines* (WT/DS371/AB/R) and the Panel report (WT/DS371/R), as modified by the Appellate Body report.

On 23 September 2011, pursuant to Article 21.3(b) of the DSU, Thailand and the Philippines notified the DSB that they had mutually agreed on the reasonable period of time for Thailand to comply with the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. With respect to the DSB's recommendations and rulings regarding paragraphs 8.3(b) and (c) of the panel report, the reasonable period of time to comply was 15 months, expiring on 15 October 2012. With respect to the DSB's recommendations and rulings regarding all other measures, the reasonable period of time to comply shall be 10 months, expiring on 15 May 2012.

Article 21.6 of the DSU provides that the issue of implementation of the recommendations or rulings shall be placed on the agenda of the DSB meeting after six months following the date of establishment of the reasonable period of time pursuant to paragraph 3 and shall remain on the DSB's agenda until the issue is resolved. Accordingly, Thailand hereby provides the following status report of its progress in the implementation of the DSB's recommendations and rulings.

On 10 April 2012, Thailand submitted to the DSB its first status report under Article 21.6 of the DSU on its progress in the implementation of the DSB's recommendations and rulings in this matter. This report was circulated to Members as document WT/DS371/15, dated 13 April 2012. On

11 May 2012, Thailand submitted to the DSB its second status report, which was circulated to Members as document WT/DS371/15/Add.1, dated 14 May 2012.

More recently, in its statement at the meeting of the DSB on 24 May 2012, Thailand provided a detailed explanation of the status of its implementation of the DSB's recommendations and rulings. Thailand refers Members to that statement. Since the DSB meeting on 24 May 2012, Thailand has issued the Customs Regulation on Administration Regarding the Customs Guarantees, which establishes an independent review process for the review of decisions to require customs guarantees on clearance of goods pending final determination of the customs value. The review process is effective as of 13 June 2012. The Customs Department is also continuing to accelerate the consideration of the Board of Appeals with regard to the customs valuation of the specific entries of merchandise listed in the Philippines' request for the establishment of a panel and the entries involved in the Philippines' claim under Article X:3 of the GATT 1994.

Regarding the findings concerning the administrative requirements for VAT reporting for resales of imported and domestic cigarettes, the Council of State has finished its review of the draft Royal Decree issued under the Revenue Code. The Revenue Department is currently in the process of confirming the changes made by the Council of State. The Decree will then be submitted to and considered by the Parliament. Thailand expects that the Decree will be in effect by the end of the agreed reasonable period of time for implementation on these items, which expires on 15 October 2012.

Thailand will continue to provide Members with further details in future status reports.

Thailand also notes that on 1 June 2012, it concluded a sequencing agreement with the Philippines covering the recommendations and rulings for which the reasonable period of time was 10 months, expiring on 15 May 2012. This sequencing agreement was circulated to Members on 7 June 2012 as document WT/DS371/16.