

**UNITED STATES – ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON CERTAIN
HOT-ROLLED STEEL PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN**

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 22 November 2000, addressed to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 12.9 of the 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 *United States - Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Products from Japan (DS184)* was established by the DSB on 20 March 2000 and composed on 24 May 2000.

It will not, however, be possible for the Panel to complete its work in six months since the parties requested to be given the maximum amount of time for preparing submissions and oral statements.

The Panel expects to complete its work by February 2001, depending on translation.
