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AUSTRALIA – ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON A4 COPY PAPER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 12 October 2018, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body.

Paragraph 1(3) of the Working Procedures for the Panel proceedings in the dispute *Australia – Anti-Dumping Measures on A4 Copy Paper* provides:

These Working Procedures and the timetable will be made available to all WTO Members during the course of the dispute by being added to the DS document series for the dispute. The Panel will circulate preliminary rulings as appropriate.

Accordingly, please find enclosed the Working Procedures adopted by the Panel on 5 October 2018.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this document to the DSB.

WORKING PROCEDURES OF THE PANEL

Adopted on 5 October 2018

General

1. (1) In this proceeding, the Panel shall follow the relevant provisions of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"). In addition, the following Working Procedures apply.

(2) The Panel reserves the right to modify these procedures as necessary, after consultation with the parties.

(3) These Working Procedures and the timetable will be made available to all WTO Members during the course of the dispute by being added to the DS document series for the dispute. The Panel will circulate preliminary rulings as appropriate.

Confidentiality

2. (1) Except as otherwise provided for in these Working Procedures, the deliberations of the Panel and the documents submitted to it shall be kept confidential. Members shall treat as confidential information that is submitted to the Panel which the submitting Member has designated as confidential.

(2) Nothing in the DSU or in these Working Procedures shall preclude a party or third party from disclosing statements of its own positions to the public.

(3) If a party submits a confidential version of its written submissions to the Panel, it shall also, upon request of a Member, provide a non-confidential summary of the information contained in its submissions that could be disclosed to the public.

(4) The parties and third parties shall treat Business Confidential Information (BCI) in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Additional Working Procedures concerning BCI adopted by the Panel.

Submissions

3. (1) Before the first substantive meeting of the Panel with the parties, each party shall submit to the Panel a written submission, in which it presents the facts of the case and its arguments, in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel.

(2) Each party shall also submit to the Panel, prior to the second substantive meeting of the Panel, a written rebuttal, in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel.

(3) Each third party that chooses to make a written submission prior to the first substantive meeting of the Panel with the parties shall do so in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel.

(4) The Panel may invite the parties or third parties to make additional submissions in the course of the proceeding, including with respect to requests for preliminary rulings in accordance with paragraph 4 below.

Preliminary rulings

4. (1) The following procedures shall apply if the responding party considers that the Panel should make a ruling prior to the issuance of the Report that certain measures or claims in the panel request or the complaining party's first written submission are not properly before the Panel. Exceptions to this procedure shall be granted upon a showing of good cause.

- a. Australia shall submit any such request for a preliminary ruling no later than in its first written submission to the Panel. Indonesia shall submit its response to the request prior to the first substantive meeting of the Panel, at a time to be determined by the Panel in light of the request.
 - b. The Panel may issue a preliminary ruling on the issues raised in such a preliminary ruling request before, during or after the first substantive meeting, or the Panel may defer a ruling on the issues raised by a preliminary ruling request until it issues its Report to the parties.
 - c. In the event that the Panel finds it appropriate to issue a preliminary ruling prior to the issuance of its Report, the Panel may provide reasons for the ruling at the time that the ruling is made, or subsequently in its Report.
 - d. Any request for such a preliminary ruling by Australia prior to the first meeting, and any subsequent submissions of the parties in relation thereto prior to the first meeting, shall be served on all third parties. The Panel may provide all third parties with an opportunity to provide comments on any such request, either in their submissions as provided for in the timetable or separately. Any preliminary ruling issued by the Panel prior to the first substantive meeting on whether certain measures or claims are properly before the Panel shall be communicated to all third parties.
- (2) The procedure set out in paragraph (1) is without prejudice to the parties' right to request other types of preliminary or procedural rulings in the course of the proceeding, and to the procedures that the Panel may follow with respect to such requests.

Evidence

5. (1) Each party shall submit all evidence to the Panel with its first written submission, except evidence necessary for purposes of rebuttal, or evidence necessary for answers to questions or comments on answers provided by the other party. Additional exceptions may be granted upon a showing of good cause.

(2) If any new evidence has been admitted upon a showing of good cause, the Panel shall accord the other party an appropriate period of time to comment on the new evidence submitted.
6. (1) Where the original language of an exhibit or portion thereof is not a WTO working language, the submitting party or third party shall simultaneously submit a translation of the exhibit or relevant portion into the WTO working language of the submission. The Panel may grant reasonable extensions of time for the translation of exhibits upon a showing of good cause.

(2) Any objection as to the accuracy of a translation should be raised promptly in writing, preferably no later than the next submission or the meeting (whichever occurs earlier) following the submission which contains the translation in question. Any objection shall be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the grounds for the objection and an alternative translation.
7. (1) To facilitate the maintenance of the record of the dispute and maximize the clarity of submissions, each party and third party shall sequentially number its exhibits throughout the course of the dispute, indicating the submitting Member and the number of each exhibit on its cover page. Exhibits submitted by Indonesia should be numbered IDN-1, IDN-2, etc. Exhibits submitted by Australia should be numbered AUS-1, AUS-2, etc. If the last exhibit in connection with the first submission was numbered AUS-5, the first exhibit in connection with the next submission thus would be numbered AUS-6.

(2) Each party shall provide an updated list of exhibits (in Word or Excel format) together with each of its submissions, oral statements, and responses to questions.

- (3) If a party submits a document that has already been submitted as an exhibit by the other party, it should explain why it is submitting that document again.

Editorial Guide

8. In order to facilitate the work of the Panel, each party and third party should consider making its submissions in accordance with the WTO Editorial Guide for Panel Submissions (electronic copy provided).

Questions

9. The Panel may pose questions to the parties and third parties at any time, including:
- a. Prior to any meeting, the Panel intends to send an indicative list of the questions, or a list of the topics it intends to pursue orally in the course of a meeting, at least 5 business days in advance of the meeting. The Panel may ask additional questions at the meeting.
 - b. The Panel may put questions to the parties and third parties orally in the course of a meeting, and in writing following the meeting, as provided for in paragraphs 15 and 22 below.

Substantive meetings

10. The Panel shall meet in closed session.
11. The parties shall be present at the meetings only when invited by the Panel to appear before it.
12. (1) Each party has the right to determine the composition of its own delegation when meeting with the Panel.
- (2) Each party shall have the responsibility for all members of its delegation and shall ensure that each member of its delegation acts in accordance with the DSU, these Working Procedures, and the Additional Working Procedures concerning BCI.
13. Each party shall provide to the Panel the list of members of its delegation no later than 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) three working days preceding the first day of each meeting with the Panel.
14. A request for interpretation by any party should be made to the Panel as early as possible, preferably at the organizational stage, to allow sufficient time to ensure availability of interpreters.
15. The first substantive meeting of the Panel with the parties shall be conducted as follows:
- a. The Panel shall invite Indonesia to make an opening statement to present its case first. Subsequently, the Panel shall invite Australia to present its point of view. Before each party takes the floor, it shall provide the Panel and other participants at the meeting with a provisional written version of its statement. In the event that interpretation is needed, each party shall provide additional copies for the interpreters.
 - b. Each party should avoid lengthy repetition of the arguments in its submissions. Each party is invited to limit the length of its opening statement to 60 minutes. If either party considers that it requires more time for its opening statement, it should inform the Panel and the other party at least 5 days prior to the meeting, and it should also provide, at the same time, an estimate of the length of its statement. The Panel will accord equal time to both parties for their statements.
 - c. After the conclusion of the opening statements, the Panel shall give each party the opportunity to ask each other questions or make comments, through the Panel. Each party shall then have an opportunity to answer these questions orally.
 - d. The Panel may subsequently pose questions to the parties.

- e. Once the questioning has concluded, the Panel shall afford each party an opportunity to present a brief closing statement, with Indonesia presenting its statement first. Before each party takes the floor, it shall provide the Panel and other participants at the meeting with a provisional written version of its closing statement, if available.
- f. Following the meeting:
 - i. Each party shall submit a final written version of its opening statement no later than 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) on the first working day following the meeting. At the same time, each party should also submit a final written version of any prepared closing statement that it delivered at the meeting.
 - ii. Each party shall send in writing, within the timeframe established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting, any questions to the other party to which it wishes to receive a response in writing.
 - iii. The Panel shall send in writing, within the timeframe established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting, any questions to the parties to which it wishes to receive a response in writing.
 - iv. Each party shall respond in writing to the questions from the Panel, and to any questions posed by the other party, within the time-frame established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting.

16. The second substantive meeting of the Panel with the parties shall be conducted in the same manner as the first substantive meeting with the Panel, except that Australia shall be given the opportunity to present its oral statement first. If Australia chooses not to avail itself of that right, it shall inform the Panel and the other party no later than 5.00pm (Geneva time) three working days prior to the meeting. In that case, Indonesia shall present its opening statement first, followed by Australia. The party that presented its opening statement first shall present its closing statement first.

17. Each party shall be given the opportunity to comment on the responses to questions provided by the other party after the second substantive meeting, within the time-frame established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting.

Third party session

18. The third parties shall be present at the meetings only when invited by the Panel to appear before it.

19. (1) Each third party has the right to determine the composition of its own delegation when meeting with the Panel.

(2) Each third party shall have the responsibility for all members of its delegation and shall ensure that each member of its delegation acts in accordance with the DSU, these Working Procedures, and the Additional Working Procedures concerning BCI.

20. A request for interpretation by any third party should be made to the Panel as early as possible, preferably upon receiving the working procedures and timetable for the proceeding, to allow sufficient time to ensure availability of interpreters.

21. (1) Each third party may present its views orally during a session of the first substantive meeting with the parties set aside for that purpose.

(2) Each third party shall indicate to the Panel whether it intends to make an oral statement during the third party session, along with the list of members of its delegation, in advance of this session and no later than 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) three working days preceding the third party session of the meeting with the Panel.

22. The third-party session shall be conducted as follows:

- a. All parties and third parties may be present during the entirety of this session.
- b. The Panel shall first hear the oral statements of the third parties, who shall speak in alphabetical order. Each third party making an oral statement at the third-party session shall provide the Panel and other participants with a provisional written version of its statement before it takes the floor. In the event that interpretation of a third party's oral statement is needed, that third party shall provide additional copies for the interpreters.
- c. Each third party should limit the length of its statement to 15 minutes, and avoid repetition of the arguments already in its submission.
- d. After the third parties have made their statements, the parties shall be given the opportunity to pose questions to any third party for clarification on any matter raised in that third party's submission or statement.
- e. The Panel may subsequently pose questions to any third party.
- f. Following the third-party session:
 - i. Each third party shall submit the final written version of its oral statement, no later than 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) on the first working day following the meeting.
 - ii. Each party may send in writing, within the timeframe to be established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting, any questions to a third party or parties to which it wishes to receive a response in writing.
 - iii. The Panel may send in writing, within the timeframe to be established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting, any questions to a third party or parties to which it wishes to receive a response in writing.
 - iv. Each third party choosing to do so shall respond in writing to written questions from the Panel or a party, within a timeframe established by the Panel prior to the end of the meeting.

Descriptive part and executive summaries

23. The description of the arguments of the parties and third parties in the descriptive part of the Panel report shall consist of executive summaries provided by the parties and third parties, which shall be annexed as addenda to the report. These executive summaries shall not in any way serve as a substitute for the submissions of the parties and third parties in the Panel's examination of the case.

24. Each party shall submit two integrated executive summaries. The first integrated executive summary shall summarize the facts and arguments as presented to the Panel in the party's first written submission, its first oral statement, and where possible, its responses to questions following the first substantive meeting. The second integrated executive summary shall summarize its second written submission, its second oral statement, and where possible, its responses to the second set of questions and comments thereon following the second substantive meeting. The timing of the submission of these two integrated executive summaries shall be indicated in the timetable adopted by the Panel.

25. Each integrated executive summary shall be limited to no more than 15 pages.

26. The Panel may request the parties and third parties to provide executive summaries of facts and arguments presented in any other submissions to the Panel for which a deadline may not be specified in the timetable.

27. Each third party shall submit an integrated executive summary of its arguments as presented in its written submission and statement in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel. This integrated executive summary may also include a summary of responses to questions, if relevant. The executive summary to be provided by each third party shall not exceed six pages. If the

documents comprising a third-party's submission, oral statement and/or responses to questions do not exceed six pages in total, these may serve as the executive summary of that third party's arguments.

Interim review

28. Following issuance of the interim report, each party may submit a written request to review precise aspects of the interim report and request a further meeting with the Panel, in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel. The right to request such a meeting shall be exercised no later than at the time the written request for review is submitted.

29. In the event that no further meeting with the Panel is requested, each party may submit written comments on the other party's written request for review, in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Panel. Such comments shall be limited to commenting on the other party's written request for review.

Interim and Final Report

30. The interim report, as well as the final report prior to its official circulation, shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed.

Service of documents

31. The following procedures regarding service of documents apply to all documents submitted by parties and third parties in the course of the proceeding:

- a. Each party and third party shall submit all documents to the Panel by submitting them with the DS Registry via e-mail in both Microsoft Word and PDF format. All documents shall be submitted by 5.00p.m. (Geneva time) on the due dates established by the Panel. This electronic copy submitted to the DS Registry shall constitute the official copy for the purposes of submission deadlines and the record of the dispute. All such e-mails to the Panel shall be addressed to DSRegistry@wto.org, and copied to other WTO Secretariat staff whose e-mail addresses have been provided to the parties in the course of the proceeding. Where it is not possible to attach all the Exhibits to one email, the submitting party or third party shall provide the DS Registry with three copies of the Exhibits on USB keys, CD-ROMs or DVDs.
- b. Each party and third party shall submit one paper copy of its submissions and one paper copy of its Exhibits to the Panel by 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) on the due dates established by the Panel. The DS Registrar shall stamp the documents with the date and time of submission.
- c. In addition, each party and third party is invited to submit all documents through the Digital Dispute Settlement Registry (DDSR) within 24 hours following the deadline for the submission of the electronic version to the DS Registry. If the parties or third parties have any questions or technical difficulties relating to the DDSR, they are invited to consult the DDSR User Guide (electronic copy provided) or contact the DS Registry at DSRegistry@wto.org.
- d. Each party shall serve any document submitted to the Panel directly on the other party. Each party shall, in addition, serve any submissions in advance of the first substantive meeting with the Panel directly on the third parties. Each third party shall serve any document submitted to the Panel directly on the parties and on all other third parties. A party or third party may serve its documents on another party or third party by e-mail or on a CD-ROM, DVD or USB key only, unless the recipient party or third party has previously requested a paper copy. Each party and third party shall confirm, in writing, that copies have been served on the parties and third parties, as appropriate, at the time it provides each document to the Panel.

- e. Each party and third party shall submit its documents with the DS Registry and serve copies on the other party (and third parties where appropriate) by 5.00 p.m. (Geneva time) on the due dates established by the Panel.
- f. As a general rule, all communications from the Panel to the parties and third parties will be via email. In addition to transmitting them to the parties by email, the Panel shall provide the parties with a paper copy of the Interim Report and the Final Report.

Correction of clerical errors in submissions

32. The Panel may grant leave to a party or third party to correct clerical errors in any of its submissions (including paragraph numbering and typographical mistakes). Any such request should identify the nature of the errors to be corrected, and should be made promptly following the filing of the submission in question.
