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INDIA – TARIFF TREATMENT ON CERTAIN GOODS IN THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

REQUEST TO JOIN CONSULTATIONS

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 18 April 2019, from the delegation of Canada to the delegation of India, and the delegation of the European Union, is circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

Pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of Canada hereby notifies its request to join the consultations requested by the European Union pursuant to Articles 1 and 4 of the DSU, and Article XXII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 with regard to the tariff treatment that India accords to certain goods in the information and communications technology sector. The request of the European Union, which was circulated to Members on 9 April 2019, is set out in document WT/DS582/1, G/L/1303.

Canada has a substantial trade interest in these consultations. Over 2016-2018, India's imports from Canada of ICT products identified in the EU request for consultations averaged US\$ 40.2 million. This reflected 43.7% of India's total imports of ICT products from Canada. ICT is an important sector for Canada's economy which relies on access to global markets. Over 2016-2018, Canada's global exports of all ICT products averaged US\$ 11.3 billion and accounted for 2.8% of all Canadian exports.

Based on the foregoing, Canada respectfully requests that it be permitted to join the consultations in this dispute.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, with a request that it be circulated to Members.