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## COLOMBIA – MEASURES RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF TEXTILES, APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR

## COMMUNICATION FROM COLOMBIA

The following communication, dated 13 December 2016, was received from the delegation of Colombia with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

In accordance with Article 21.6 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, Colombia wishes to inform Members that on 2 November 2016, the Colombian Government issued Decree 1744 of 2016 modifying the tariffs applicable to imports of products classified in Chapters 61, 62 and 63 of the Customs Tariff, and certain items in Chapter 64.

Decree 1744 sets an *ad valorem* MFN tariff of 40% for imports of products classified in Chapters 61 and 62 when the declared FOB import price is less than or equal to ten (10) US dollars per gross kilogram. This tariff is equal to the bound tariff in Colombia's Schedule LXXVI, Part I – Most-Favoured-Nation Tariff, Section II – Other products, annexed to the GATT 1994. In cases where the import price for these products exceeds ten (10) US dollars, the MFN tariff will be as provided in Decree 4927 of 2011 or any amending decree, containing the Customs Tariff of the Republic of Colombia, and as such it will not exceed Colombia's bound tariffs.

As regards imports of products classified under tariff headings 6401, 6402, 6403, 6404 and 6405 of the Customs Tariff of the Republic of Colombia, an MFN tariff of 35% *ad valorem* is applied when the declared FOB import price is less than or equal to prices that vary between six (6) US dollars and ten (10) US dollars per pair, in accordance with the said Decree. For imports of products classified under subheading 6406.10.00.00, an MFN tariff of 35% *ad valorem* will be applied when the declared FOB price is less than or equal to five (5) US dollars per gross kilogram. These tariffs are equal to the tariff bound in Colombia's Schedule LXXVI, Part I – Most-Favoured-Nation Tariff, Section II – Other products, annexed to the GATT 1994. In cases where the import price for these products exceeds the above-mentioned prices, the MFN tariff will be as provided in Decree 4927 of 2011 or any amending decree, and as such it will not exceed Colombia's bound tariffs.

For imports of the other products that were covered by the compound tariffs introduced by Decree 456 of 2014, including the products classified in Chapter 63 of the Customs Tariff and those classified under the headings of Chapter 64 not mentioned above, the applicable tariff, as from 2 November, is the MFN *ad valorem* tariff set forth in Decree 4927 of 2011 or any amending decree, and as such it will not exceed Colombia's bound tariffs.

Thus, Colombia has fully complied with the DSB's recommendations and rulings adopted on 22 June 2016 in *Colombia – Textiles* (DS461).