WORLD TRADE

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MEXICO - MEASURES AFFECTING THE IMPORT OF MATCHES

Communication from Chile

The following communication, dated 2 February 2004, from the delegation of Chile to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of Chile.

On 17 May 2001, Chile requested consultations with Mexico on measures affecting the import of matches. The request was circulated as document WT/DS232/1. Since that date, the governments of the two countries, relying on their excellent political and trade relations, have periodically held conversations in order to seek a positive solution to the matter at issue.

As a result of those negotiations, Chile considers that its complaints have been adequately met and wishes formally to withdraw the above-mentioned request for consultations and to bring this matter to a close.

This decision does not in any way prejudge Chile's right to oppose or challenge a similar measure or any other measure affecting matches or other products or services of Chilean origin. Nor does it prejudge the arguments and fundamental points of fact and law raised in its request for consultations.

Chile wishes to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to the Mexican authorities for their positive response to our arguments and for their efforts in this matter which have led to a positive outcome.