

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – SAFEGUARD MEASURES ON IMPORTS OF  
POLYPROPYLENE BAGS AND TUBULAR FABRIC**

Constitution of the Panel Established at the Request of  
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its meeting on 7 February 2011, the Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") established a single panel pursuant to the requests of Costa Rica (in document WT/DS415/7), El Salvador (in document WT/DS418/7), Guatemala (in document WT/DS416/7) and Honduras (in document WT/DS417/7), in accordance with Article 6 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU").

2. The Panel's terms of reference are the following:

"To examine, in the light of the relevant provisions of the covered agreements cited by the parties to the dispute, the matter referred to the DSB by Costa Rica in document WT/DS415/7, by El Salvador in document WT/DS418/7, by Guatemala in document WT/DS416/7 and by Honduras in document WT/DS417/7, and to make such findings as will assist the DSB in making the recommendations or in giving the rulings provided for in those agreements."

3. On 1 March 2011, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras jointly requested the Director-General to determine the composition of the panel, pursuant to paragraph 7 of Article 8 of the DSU. This paragraph provides:

"If there is no agreement on the panelists within 20 days after the date of the establishment of a panel, at the request of either party, the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the DSB and the Chairman of the relevant Council or Committee, shall determine the composition of the panel by appointing the panelists whom the Director-General considers most appropriate in accordance with any relevant special or additional rules or procedures of the covered agreement or covered agreements which are at issue in the dispute, after consulting with the parties to the dispute. The Chairman of the DSB shall inform the Members of the composition of the panel thus formed no later than 10 days after the date the Chairman receives such a request."

4. On 11 March 2011, the Director-General accordingly composed the Panel as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Pierre Pettigrew

Members: Ms Enie Neri de Ross  
Ms Gisela Bolívar

5. China, Colombia, Costa Rica (for WT/DS/416, WT/DS417 and WT/DS418), El Salvador (for WT/DS415, WT/DS416 and WT/DS417), the European Union, Guatemala (for WT/DS415, WT/DS417 and WT/DS418), Honduras (for WT/DS415, WT/DS/416 and WT/DS418), Nicaragua, Panama, Turkey and the United States have reserved their rights to participate in the Panel proceedings as third parties.

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