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UNITED STATES – COUNTERVAILING MEASURES CONCERNING CERTAIN PRODUCTS FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Recourse to Article 21.5 of the DSU by the European Communities

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 4 January 2005, addressed to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 21.5 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

Article 21.5 of the DSU stipulates that the period in which a panel shall conduct its examination, from the date that the composition and terms of reference of the panel have been agreed upon until the date that the final report is issued to the parties, shall, as a general rule, not exceed 90 days.

Article 21.5 of the DSU states that when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within 90 days, it shall inform the DSB in writing of the reasons for the delay, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *United States – Countervailing Measures concerning Certain Products from the European Communities (DS212 Recourse to Article 21.5 of the DSU)* was established by the DSB on 27 September 2004 and composed on 8 October 2004.

The Panel now expects to complete its work in May 2005. This date takes into account the parties' requests for more time for their submissions and certain scheduling problems.