

**AUSTRALIA - CERTAIN MEASURES CONCERNING TRADEMARKS,
GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND OTHER PLAIN PACKAGING
REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO TOBACCO
PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING**

Request to Join Consultations

Communication from El Salvador

The following communication, dated 27 July 2012, from the delegation of El Salvador to the delegation of Australia, the delegation of the Dominican Republic and to the Chairperson of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.11 of the DSU.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 4.11 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), El Salvador hereby notifies its wish to be joined in the consultations requested by the Government of the Dominican Republic.¹ The consultations were requested by means of the corresponding communications circulated to WTO Members on 23 July 2012 under the title *Australia - Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging*.

El Salvador has a systemic interest in the proper implementation of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), and in the scope of the rights and obligations of Members with respect to the regulation of tobacco legislation and the protection of health.

Accordingly, El Salvador respectfully requests Australia to accept its claim of a systemic interest and its request to be joined in the consultations.

Pending your reply, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

¹ Document WT/DS441/1, G/L/992, IP/D/32, G/TBT/D/41.