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UNITED STATES – SUNSET REVIEWS OF ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON OIL COUNTRY TUBULAR GOODS FROM ARGENTINA

Extension of Time Period under Article 21.3(c) of the DSU

The following communication, dated 16 March 2005, from the delegation of Argentina and the delegation of the United States to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated at the request of those delegations.

We refer to the communication from Argentina, dated 11 March 2005, requesting binding arbitration under Article 21.3(c) of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU") to determine the reasonable period of time for the United States to implement the recommendations and rulings of the Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") in the dispute "United States – Sunset Reviews of Anti-Dumping Measures on Oil Country Tubular Goods from Argentina" (WT/DS268).

The parties to the dispute, Argentina and the United States, are currently holding consultations for the appointment of an arbitrator, pursuant to footnotes 12 and 13 to Article 21.3(c) of the DSU.

Article 21.3(c) of the DSU provides that in the absence of an agreement between the parties on a reasonable period of time for implementation, a period of time shall be determined through binding arbitration within 90 days after the date of adoption of the recommendations and rulings by the DSB. As this 90-day period is about to expire, Argentina and the United States have agreed that the period of time for this binding arbitration shall be completed no later than 60 days after the date of the appointment of the arbitrator. Argentina and the United States confirm that the award of the arbitrator, made within the agreed 60-day period, shall be deemed to be the award of the arbitrator for the purposes of Article 21.3(c) of the DSU in determining the reasonable period of time for the United States to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB.