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**EUROPEAN UNION – ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON CERTAIN COLD-ROLLED
FLAT STEEL PRODUCTS FROM RUSSIA****COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL**

The following communication, dated 21 December 2021, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body.

Article 12.8 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) provides 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 the final report is issued to the parties to the dispute, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU provides that, when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in writing accordingly and indicate the reasons, together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel on *European Union – Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Cold-Rolled Flat Steel Products From Russia* (DS521) was established by the DSB on 26 April 2019 and composed on 16 March 2020.

In light of the ongoing travel restrictions resulting from the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the parties' agreement to hold substantive meetings with the Panel in-person at the WTO, the Panel has decided, after consulting the parties, to further postpone the first substantive meeting with the parties and the third parties. Consequently, and considering the complexity of this dispute, the Panel expects to issue its final report no earlier than the second half of 2022.

The report will only be available to the public once it is circulated to the Members in all three working languages of the WTO. The date of circulation depends on completion of translation and the Panel is not in a position to provide an estimated circulation date at this time.
