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UNITED STATES – CERTAIN MEASURES ON STEEL AND ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS

SUSPENSION OF PANEL WORK

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 23 June 2023, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body.

In a communication dated 16 June 2023, the Russian Federation requested that the Panel suspend its work in this dispute pursuant to Article 12.12 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU). On 20 June 2023, the United States commented on the request, asking the Panel to decline it and to "proceed with the agreed timetable". On 21 June 2023, the Russian Federation commented on the United States' comments and confirmed its request, arguing that it was made "in conformity with Article 12.12 of the DSU". On the same date, the United States reiterated its objection.

Based on Article 12.12 of the DSU, and after carefully considering the parties' comments, the Panel has accepted the Russian Federation's request, and has suspended its work effective Friday, 23 June 2023.

We recall that Article 12.12 of the DSU provides that the Panel may suspend its work at any time at the request of the complaining party for a period not to exceed 12 months. This provision also indicates that if the work of the Panel has been suspended for more than 12 months, the authority for establishment of the Panel shall lapse.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this communication to the DSB.
