



2 September 2022

(22-6517)

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Original: English

**CHINA – ANTI-DUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING DUTY MEASURES
ON WINE FROM AUSTRALIA**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 31 August 2022, was received from the Chairman of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

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 in *China – Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duty Measures on Wine from Australia* (DS602) was established by the DSB on 26 October 2021 and composed on 4 March 2022.

The parties requested, and the Panel has granted, considerable extensions to the timetable as originally proposed by the Panel. Moreover, the Panel has now received particularly voluminous submissions from the parties, on a wide range of issues. As a result, the Panel will not be able to issue its final report within the 6-month time-frame in Article 12.8 of the DSU. The Panel does not expect to issue its final report to the parties before the end of 2022, at the earliest.

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.

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