



2 April 2026

(26-2636)

Page: 1/1

Original: English

**EUROPEAN UNION – DEFINITIVE COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON
NEW BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLES FROM CHINA**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 1 April 2026, was received from the Chairperson 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 the above-mentioned proceeding was established by the DSB on 25 April 2025 and composed on 13 October 2025.

Both parties requested significantly more time to file their submissions than the time originally proposed by the Panel. In view of the parties' arguments, the Panel granted the requests. This has significantly delayed the beginning of the Panel's substantive work and has resulted in significant extensions to the Panel's originally proposed timetable. The Panel does not expect to issue its final report to the parties before the second quarter of 2027.

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.
