



14 June 2019

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**CHINA – CERTAIN MEASURES CONCERNING THE PROTECTION
OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PANEL

The following communication, dated 12 June 2019, was received from the Chairperson of the Panel with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

On 3 June 2019, the Panel received a request from the United States to suspend the Panel's work in the proceedings *China – Certain Measures Concerning The Protection Of Intellectual Property Rights* (DS542) until 31 December 2019. In its letter of 4 June 2019, China agreed with the United States' request to suspend the proceedings. In response to a query from the Panel, the parties stated that the Panel should consider this request as a request to suspend the Panel's work within the meaning of Article 12.12 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU).

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 exceeding 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.

The Panel hereby informs the Dispute Settlement Body of its decision of 11 June 2019 to grant the United States' request and to suspend its work and requests that this communication be circulated to Members.
