

**PROCEDURES FOR THE APPOINTMENT
OF APPELLATE BODY MEMBERS**

The following conclusions by the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body on Procedures for the Appointment of Appellate Body Members were agreed at the DSB meeting on 5 April and supersede document WT/DSB/23.

On 10 December 2001 the contracts of three of the present members of the Appellate Body will expire. The three members who will conclude their terms are: Claus-Dieter Ehlermann; Florentino Feliciano and Julio Lacarté-Muro.

As you will recall procedures for the selection of Appellate Body members are set out in the decision of the Dispute Settlement Body of 10 February 1995. The appointments are made by the DSB. A joint proposal is put to the DSB, after appropriate consultations, by a selection committee comprising the Director-General, the Chair of the DSB, the Chairs of the General, Goods, Services and TRIPs Councils.

With the termination of the three Appellate Body members' terms on 10 December it was necessary to decide on a time-frame for the commencement and conclusion of the selection process. Factors to be taken into account in this connection included the northern summer break in August, and also the fact that the WTO Ministerial in Qatar is to be held in November.

At the 12 March DSB meeting, I made an initial statement on this matter which was circulated in document WT/DSB/23 dated 13 March 2001.

I wish to inform you that at the 5 April 2001 regular meeting of the DSB the following time-frame was agreed:

- Nominations for the Appellate Body should be submitted to the Director-General from 17 April 2001, with the deadline for nominations closing on 29 June 2001.
 - The Selection Committee's work is expected to would commence from 2 July 2001.
 - The decision by the DSB on the appointees would ideally be made soon after the northern summer break.
-