

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/STR/Q1/BRA/3

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Working Party on State Trading Enterprises

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QUESTIONS POSED BY THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING THE ARTICLE XVII NOTIFICATION OF BRAZIL¹

The following communication, dated 11 September 1996, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

1. We note that Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB) "does not act in imports or exports. It may carry on imports, under exceptional circumstances, by decision of the Ministry of Agriculture".

Could Brazil explain under what circumstances CONAB would engage in trade, and the general framework of its trading operations in those circumstances?

2. We note that Petrobras "operates in imports and exports and its activities are determined by the necessities of the Brazilian market".

Could Brazil explain the criteria used by Petrobras to engage in importation or exportation, and the mechanisms it uses to conduct trade?

¹G/STR/N/1/BRA.