

GUATEMALA - ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION REGARDING
PORTLAND CEMENT FROM MEXICO

Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 6 February 1998 and addressed to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the DSU.

Article 12.8 of the DSU stipulates that the period in which the panel shall conduct its examination, from the date that the composition and terms of reference of the panel have been decided until the date the final report is issued to the parties, shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months.

Article 12.9 of the DSU states that when the panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in writing of the reasons for the delay together with an estimate of the period within which it will issue its report.

The Panel "Guatemala - Anti-Dumping Investigation Regarding Portland Cement from Mexico" was established by the DSB on 20 March 1997. The Director-General announced the final composition of the Panel on 11 July 1997. On 30 July 1997, the Chairman of the Panel informed the DSB that the Panel would not be able to circulate its report to Members within six months of its establishment. The Chairman informed the DSB that the Panel expected to complete its work before the end of March 1998 (WT/DS60/5). At the request of the parties, the Panel has agreed to delay issuance of the interim report by two weeks. The Panel would encourage the parties to take advantage of this opportunity to develop a mutually satisfactory solution to the dispute. The Panel expects to complete its work on 17 April 1998.
