

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(a) OF THE AGREEMENT
ON SAFEGUARDS ON FINDING A SERIOUS INJURY OR
THREAT THEREOF CAUSED BY INCREASED IMPORTS**

Questions posed by the UNITED STATES
Regarding the Notification of ECUADOR¹

The following communication, dated 11 May 2000, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

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- We note in the notification that a safeguards investigation for matches was initiated on 28 October 1999. Could the delegation from Ecuador please advise us of the status of this investigation, e.g. whether hearings have been held and when the investigation is likely to be concluded?

The resolution attached to the notification indicates that the period of the investigation shall take place over twelve months from the date of issue of the resolution (28 October 1999), with the possibility of an extension for an additional six months in exceptional circumstances.

- Can the competent authority consider data for imports or for injury for any period after the initiation of the investigation in making its determination?
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¹ G/SG/N/6/ECU/2