

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

**WT/DS160/7**  
10 February 2000

(00-0509)

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Original: English

## **UNITED STATES - SECTION 110(5) OF THE US COPYRIGHT ACT**

### Communication from the Chairman of the Panel

The following communication, dated 3 February 2000 and addressed to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 12.9 of the DSU.

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Article 12.8 of the DSU stipulates that the period in which a panel shall conduct its examination, from the date that the composition and terms of reference of the panel have been agreed upon until the date the final report is issued to the parties shall, as a general rule, not exceed six months. Pursuant to Article 12.9 of the DSU, when a panel considers that it cannot issue its report within six months, it shall inform the 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 on "United States – Section 110(5) of the US Copyright Act" was established by the DSB on 26 May 1999 with the standard terms of reference, and its composition was determined on 6 August 1999. I wish to inform you that the Panel will not be able to complete its work within the six months provided for in the DSU. The complex nature of the matter and the need to seek information pursuant to Article 13 of the DSU are responsible for this delay.

The Panel intends to finalize its work in April 2000.

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