

**Dispute Settlement Body Meeting
(26 July 2024)**

Hong Kong, China's Statement

Item 6. Appellate Body Appointments: Proposal by Afghanistan; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Australia; Bangladesh; Benin; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Cuba; Democratic Republic of Congo; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Eswatini; the European Union; Gabon; The Gambia; Ghana; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Israel; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Lesotho; Liechtenstein; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; the Philippines; Qatar; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; Switzerland; the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tunisia; Türkiye; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; Uruguay; the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Zambia and Zimbabwe (WT/DSB/W/609/Rev.26)

- Thank you Chair.
- We thank Colombia for this statement made on behalf of the co-sponsors including Hong Kong, China.
- Chair, as you have rightly pointed out at the beginning, our position on this matter remains unchanged. We join other Members to reiterate our concerns about the current Appellate Body impasse. We will continue to work with other Members constructively with a view to restoring a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system by end of 2024 under the DS reform formalized process.
- Last but not least, all the best to departing colleagues. For me personally, I have only been working with you for a very short period of time, but as our colleagues said earlier, the group of people who work on the DS reform are amazing and professional. I can really feel it from my dealings with many of you. It has been my pleasure to have worked with you all. And allow me to wish everyone in the room a good summer break. Thank you.

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Geneva

July 2024