

Notice of Public Meeting in the WTO Dispute:
Australia — Measures Affecting the Importation of Apples from New Zealand (WT/DS367)

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (“USTR”) is pleased to call to the attention of the public an opportunity to view a live closed-circuit television broadcast of the public session of the first substantive meeting of the Panel in the World Trade Organization (“WTO”) dispute *Australia — Measures Affecting the Importation of Apples from New Zealand (WT/DS367)*. The details are provided on the WTO website (see http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news08_e/hearing_11aug08_e.htm).

As explained in the WTO notice, the first meeting is scheduled to begin on September 2, 2008 at the WTO in Geneva, Switzerland and conclude on September 3, 2008. At the public session, each party (Australia and New Zealand) will make its opening statement and may pose questions to the other party or make comments on the other party’s statement. Third parties (including the United States) will also all make their oral statements in public session. The United States is pleased to note that this is the first WTO panel meeting at which all the parties and third parties have agreed to make their statements in open session. The Panel also may pose any questions or make any comments during the public session. To the extent that the Panel or either of the parties considers it necessary, the Panel will hold a confidential session at which business confidential information may be discussed.

Viewing of the public session will be on the WTO premises in Geneva, Switzerland and is open to those individuals who apply to, and are accepted by, the WTO. Updates will be provided through the WTO website.

Any person interested in viewing the public session should apply directly to the WTO by completing an application form available at: http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news08_e/hearing_11aug08_e.htm and returning the application form by e-mail to openhearing.apples@wto.org. The request should be made as soon as possible (and in any event no later than 6 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on August 27, 2008) because seats for the public viewing will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis due to limited seating capacity in the public viewing room. Persons who are granted a seat to view the public session will receive a confirmation e-mail directly from the WTO by no later than August 29, 2008.

Details about the dispute may be found at http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds367_e.htm. Further information, including U.S. submissions to the Panel, may be found at http://www.ustr.gov/Trade_Agreements/Monitoring_Enforcement/Dispute_Settlement/WTO/Dispute_Settlement_Index_-_Pending.html.