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Committee on Safeguards

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**IMPOSITION OF A SAFEGUARD MEASURE BY THE UNITED STATES ON
IMPORTS OF CRYSTALLINE SILICON PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS**

**REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 12.3
OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

EUROPEAN UNION

The following communication, dated 7 February 2018, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the European Union.

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1. On 26 January 2018 the United States notified the WTO Committee on Safeguards under Article 12.1(c) on taking a decision to apply a safeguard measure.
 2. In the same notification, the EU and in particular its Member State Germany was identified as a major exporting Member of the product involved.
 3. Thus, having a substantial interest as an exporter in this case, the European Union requests consultations with the United States under paragraph 3 of Article 12 of the Agreement on Safeguards.
 4. The aim of the consultations is, *inter alia*, to exchange views and seek clarification regarding the proposed measures and reaching an understanding on ways to achieve the objectives set out in Article 8.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards.
 5. The European Union suggests holding the consultations as soon as possible and preferably with the participation of representatives of the United States' investigating authorities. The European Union looks forward to a prompt reply by the United States in order to set a mutually convenient date and venue for these consultations.
 6. The European Union reserves all its rights under the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization and its Annexes including the Agreement on Safeguards.
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