

February 9, 2023

H.E. Dr. Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme  
Chairperson  
Dispute Settlement Body  
World Trade Organization  
Centre William Rappard  
Rue de Lausanne 154  
1211 Geneva 21

***Re: United States – Measures on Certain Semiconductor and Other Products, and Related Services and Technologies (DS615)***

Dear Ms. Chairperson:

The United States is in receipt of a letter from the Russian Federation, dated December 21, 2022, requesting to join in the consultations requested by China as circulated in document WT/DS615/1. In light of Russia's premeditated and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, the United States does not intend to engage in business-as-usual activity with the delegation of the Russian Federation, including direct engagement on this matter. Furthermore, the United States does not consider Russia's claim of substantial interest to be well-founded.

Thus, without prejudice to WTO rules that issues of national security are not susceptible to review or capable of resolution by WTO dispute settlement,<sup>1</sup> the United States does not accept Russia's request to join the consultations.

Sincerely,

H.E. Ms. María L. Pagán  
Ambassador

cc: H.E. Mr. Li Chenggang, Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China

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<sup>1</sup> See Article XXI of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*; Article XIV bis of the *General Agreement on Trade in Services*; and Article 73 of the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights*.