

Mexico Measures Affecting Telecommunications Services

WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION WT/DS204/7

S/L/161

2 June 2004

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Notification of an Agreement

The following communications, dated 1 June 2004, from the Permanent Missions of Mexico and the United States, are circulated at their request.

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June 1, 2004

H.E. Ms. Linnet F. Deily

Ambassador

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the United States to

The World Trade Organization

Route de Preney 11

1292 Chambesey

Switzerland

Dear Ambassador Deily:

Over the past several days, delegations of the United States and Mexico (the "Parties") have been discussing a mutually agreed solution of the dispute Mexico - Measures Affecting Telecommunications Services (WT/DS204/R). Notwithstanding the fact that Mexico does not share the interpretation of Mexico's World Trade Organization (the "WTO") commitments as set forth in the panel findings, Mexico will not exercise its right to appeal under Article 16 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (the "DSU") in light of the following understanding reached by the Parties to comply with the recommendations of the panel report:

The Parties agree that thirteen (13) months constitutes a reasonable period of time to comply with the recommendations of the Report, as set forth in paragraphs 2 to 6 of this letter.

Within two (2) months of adoption of the Report, Mexico shall have in force revised International Long Distance Rules (the "ILD Rules"). Mexico shall completely eliminate those aspects of the current ILD Rules that implement the "uniform settlement rate" system, the "proportional return" system, and the requirement that the carrier with the greatest proportion of outgoing traffic to a country negotiate the settlement rate on behalf of all Mexican g

carriers for a country. Thus, the new ILDR less than all will compete in the commercial arena of international services.

With the entry of 13 more states into the region, Mexico shall have the force of the regulations (Reglamento) on the authorization of simple resale of telecommunications services. Such Regulations will regulate the commercial agencies (commercialized services) established in Mexico and permit them to purchase and resell these telecommunications services through the use of capacity for concessional services, with the limits established in Articles 52 and 61 of Mexico's Federal Telecommunications Law.

The Parties also agree that the competitive commercial arena of international services shall be revised in the ILDR less than described in paragraph 2 will result in a reasonable and desirable result.

The United States recognizes that Mexico will continue to prohibit International Simple Resale (ISR).

Once Mexico has complied with the obligation set forth in paragraph 2 and 3, as provided in the international services agreement, it shall create an environment for the establishment of telecommunications services by commercial agencies as included in May 2004 between the United States carriers and the Mexican carrier authorized under the ILDR less, the Parties will file a notice with the Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO as mutually agreed upon. This dispute shall be resolved. Provided that Mexico has complied with this agreement, the United States shall seek recourse under Article 21.5 of the DSU, concerning any final determination of the panel report.

The Parties shall consult periodically regarding the implementation of this agreement.

I have the honor to propose that the letter of the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic, shall be signed by the authorized representatives of the Parties to the agreement between the two Governments, effective as from the date of the letter reply.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Edmundo Pérez Moa,

Ambassador

June 1, 2004

H.E. Mr. Edmundo Pérez Moa

Ambassador

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of Mexico

to the World Trade Organization

Avenue de Bédouin 16 (7th floor)

1202 Geneva

Switzerland

Dear Ambassador Pérez Moa:

I am pleased to receive your letter of today's date, which reads as follows:

"Over the past several days, delegations from the United States and Mexico (the "Parties") have been discussing a mutually agreed upon final dispute settlement mechanism for the Telecommunications Services (WT/DS204/R). Notwithstanding the fact that Mexico's interests are interpreted by Mexico's World Trade Organization (the "WTO" committee) as self-interest of the panel findings, Mexico will exercise its right of appeal under Article)

16 of the e ta i go Rule a P oce u e Gove i g the Settleme t of Di pute (the "DS " i light of the followi g u e ta i g each y the Pa tie to comply with the ecomme atio of the pa el epo t:

The Pa tie ag ee that thi tee (13) mo th co titute a ea o a le pe io of time to comply with the ecomme atio of the Repo t, a et fo th i pa ag aph 2 to 6 of thi lette .

Withi two (2) mo th of a optio of the Repo t, Mexico hall have i fo ce evi e I te atio al Lo g Di ta ce Rule (the "ILD Rule "). Mexico hall completely elimi ate tho e a pect of the cu e t ILD Rule that impleme t the "u ifo m ettleme t ate" y tem, the "p opo tio al etu " y tem, a the equi eme t that the ca ie with the g eate t p opo tio of outgoi g t affic to a cou t y egotiate the ettleme t ate o ehalf of all Mexica ca ie fo that cou t y. Thu , the ew ILD Rule hall allow the competitive comme cial egotiatio of i te atio al ettleme t ate .

Withi thi tee (13) mo th of a optio of the epo t, Mexico hall have i fo ce egulatio (Reglame to ) autho izi g the i ua ce of pe mit (pe mi o ) fo the e ale of i te atio al lo g i ta ce pu lic witch e telecommu icatio e vice . Such Reglame to will egulate comme cial age cie (come cializa o a ) e ta li he i Mexico a pe mit them to pu cha e a e ell the e telecommu icatio e vice th ough the u e of capacity of co ce io ai e , withi the limit e ta li he i A ticle 52 a 61 of Mexico' Fe e al Telecommu icatio Law.

The Pa tie a ticipate that the competitive comme cial egotiatio of i te atio al ettleme t ate e ulti g f om the evi io of the ILD Rule e c i e i pa ag aph 2 will e ulti ea o a le a co t-o ie te ate .

The ite State ecog ize that Mexico will co ti ue to p ohi it I te atio al Simple Re ale (ISR).

Once Mexico ha complie with the o ligatio et out i pa ag aph 2 a 3, a p ovi e that i te atio al ettleme t ate offe e o ot i c ea e a ove the ate e ta li he y comme cial egotiatio co clu e i May 2004 etwee ite State ca ie a the Mexica ca ie autho ize u e the cu e t ILD Rule , the Pa tie will file a otice with the Di pute Settleme t Bo y tati g that a mutually ag ee olutio to thi i pute ha ee achieve . P ovi e that Mexico ha complie with thi ag eeme t, the ite State hall ot eek ecou e to A ticle 21.5 of the DS , co ce i g a y fi i g o ecomme atio of the pa el epo t. b

The Pa tie hall co ult pe io ically ega i g the impleme tatio of thi ag eeme t.

I have the ho o to p opo e that thi lette o e i the E gli h a Spa i h la guage , oth text ei g equally authe tic, a you lette of co fi matio i eply hall co titute a ag eeme t etwee ou two Gove me t , effective a of the ate of the lette i eply."

I have the ho o to co fi m that the b e ta i g efe e to i you lette o e i the E gli h a Spa i h la guage , oth text ei g equally authe tic, i ha e y my Gove me t, a that you lette a thi lette i eply hall co titute a ag eeme t etwee ou two e pective Gove me t , to e te i to fo ce o the ate of thi lette .

Si ce ely,

(Sig e ) Li et F. Deily

Am a a o

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