

Dispute Settlement Panel in
WT/DS332
(Brazil-Retreaded Tyres)
World Trade Organization
Centre William Rappard,
Rue de Lausanne 154,
CH-1211 Geneva 21,
Switzerland

Brazil – Measures Affecting Imports of Retreaded Tyres
(WT/DS332)

Request for public hearing

June 20, 2006

Submitted by:

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

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USA

and

15 Rue des Savoises,
1205 Geneva
Switzerland



To the Panel in *Brazil—Measures Affecting Imports of Retreaded Tyres*:

The undersigned respectfully request that the Panel consult with the Parties in the *Brazil—Measures Affecting Imports of Retreaded Tyres (Brazil—Retreaded Tyres)* case to consider the possibility of **web-casting the upcoming first panel hearing** in the legal proceedings of this WTO dispute.

The European Communities, along with other parties of the *Beef Hormones* dispute settlement process, broke new ground in WTO legal proceedings by allowing its meeting of the panel to be viewed by the public. This public viewing, which was carried out smoothly with no disruption, was a significant step forward in the process of creating a more transparent and democratic WTO. We believe it is essential that this type of public involvement continue, especially for cases involving issues pertaining to public health, safety and the environment. Greater transparency can enhance public understanding of the functioning of the multilateral trading system.

In September 2005, the dispute settlement panel's hearing in *Beef Hormones* was open to public observation via closed-circuit television broadcast. We hope that in *Brazil—Retreaded Tyres*, public access will be made available to an even larger audience. Since many interested citizens, especially from developing countries, are unable to spend the time and money to travel to Geneva to watch the proceedings in person, the use of the internet would greatly facilitate access to citizens around the world. This manner of proceeding would neither delay the panel process nor require a physical space to hold public sessions for hearings.

We thus respectfully request a consultation by the Panel with the Parties in to the *Brazil—Retreaded Tyres* case to consider a web-cast public hearing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel B. Magraw", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Barstow Magraw
President
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

Cc: Minister of External Relations, Ambassador Celso Amorim; and
Commissioner Peter Mandelson