

The World Trade Organization ("WTO") recently circulated in succession two dispute settlement reports concerning two trade disputes filed by China against the United States. In their respective rulings, the WTO Appellate Body and the panel sustained most of China's claims and found that the United States acted inconsistently with the WTO rules for taking measures against imports from China in more than 20 anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations.

Ever since the United States' initiation of countervailing duty investigations against imports from China in 2006, China has constantly consulted with the United States and strongly questioned the consistency of the United States' practice with its own domestic laws and the WTO rules. For more than 7 years, China has filed a series of disputes at the WTO against the United States' anti-dumping and countervailing measures. These rulings have proved, at least, that none of the 26 anti-dumping and countervailing measures taken by the United States against imports from China prior to March 2012 are fully consistent with the WTO rules, and that the United States' relevant domestic trade remedy legislations are also highly suspected of violating the WTO rules.

The United States' abusive use of trade remedy measures severely impaired the legitimate rights and interests of the Chinese enterprises. The Chinese government not only has attached serious attention to this matter, but also would not remain indifferent. The fact that China has filed those disputes against the United States at the WTO shows that China is committed to exercising its rights as a WTO Member and to concretely safeguarding its legitimate interests by utilizing the WTO rules. The actions taken by China are also aimed at protecting the stability of the multilateral trading system and the seriousness of the rules.

I strongly urge the United States to confront its long-standing, systematic violations of the WTO rules through its trade remedy related legislations and practices, to implement the rulings of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body in good faith, to correct its abusive use of the trade remedy rules in a timely and complete fashion, and to strive to become a role model who abides by the rules strictly, rather than a negative influence who breaches the rules. In particular, with the world economy slowly recovering, the United States should shoulder even more responsibilities in maintaining the multilateral trading system and relevant rules, and in rejecting trade protectionism.

The economic and trade relations between China and the United States are the ballast stone and engine of the overall China-U.S. ties. Healthy and steady bilateral economic and trade relations require joint efforts and attentive care from both China and the United States. I hope that the United States will contribute more positive energy to the development of the economic and trade relations between our two countries.