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**EUROPEAN UNION**  
Permanent Mission  
to the World Trade Organization

**UNITED STATES MISSION  
TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**  
Geneva, Switzerland

Geneva, 4 March 2022

H.E. Ambassador Didier CHAMBOVEY,  
Chairman of the General Council  
World Trade Organisation  
Rue de Lausanne, 154  
1211 Genève 2  
Switzerland

Your Excellency,

We are writing to you in your capacity as chair of the WTO General Council on the subject of the participation of the Russian Federation in the Developed Countries Coordinating Group.

Following the unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine by Russian forces last week, members of the Developed Countries Coordinating Group believe that it is no longer appropriate for Russia to partake in the deliberations of our Group. Russia's participation in the Group is therefore suspended.

We condemn the Russian Federation's reprehensible assault on Ukraine. We consider that the Russian Federation's actions are an unprovoked, premeditated attack against a sovereign democratic state, and an egregious violation of international law, the UN Charter and fundamental principles of international peace and security.

In consequence of the suspension you may wish to inform the ambassador of the Russian Federation that any information, deliberations and proposals by our Group relating to appointments to chair WTO bodies will no longer include Russia or Russian nominees, and that he should henceforth revert to you or the chairs of the Goods and Services Councils during these procedures.

We will be sharing a copy of this letter with the Director General and request that this letter is shared with the full WTO membership.

Sincerely,

Hiddo HOUBEN, Chargé d'Affaires a.i.  
Permanent Mission of the European Union  
to the World Trade Organisation

David BISBEE, Chargé d'Affaires a.i.  
Permanent Mission of the United States  
to the World Trade Organisation