

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/SCM/Q3/PAN/4

25 February 2002

(02-0943)

**Committee on Subsidies
and Countervailing Measures**

Original: English

SUBSIDIES

Requests Pursuant to Article 27.4 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures

Questions Posed by Japan

The following communication, dated 21 February 2002, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Japan.

Japan hereby submits the following questions seeking clarification of certain aspects of the requests submitted by Panama under Article 27.4 of the ASCM for extension of the transition period for export subsidies. In addition, Japan reserves its right for further questions. These questions are without prejudice to whether Japan endorses any conclusions which may be drawn.

Questions to Panama (G/SCM/N/74/PAN/2)

Tax Credit Certificate (CAT)

1. Could Panama please explain in detail how the certificate should be prepared?
2. Could Panama please provide respective examples of exported commodities by corporations receiving benefit from the programme?
3. According to Panama's notification,¹ "the CAT lapses four years after its date of issue". If this programme, as Panama stated, ends at the end of 2008, could the corporations continue to receive benefit until the end of 2012?

¹ G/SCM/N/38/PAN