

V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON
COMMERCIAL POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Notice of initiation of a partial interim review of the anti-dumping measures applicable to imports
of certain polyethylene terephthalate originating, inter alia, in the Republic of Korea**

(2010/C 47/09)

The Commission has received a request for a partial interim review pursuant to Article 11(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community ⁽¹⁾ (‘the basic Regulation’).

1. Request for review

The request was lodged by the Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Committee of PlasticsEurope (‘the applicant’), representing seven Union producers.

The request is limited in scope to the examination of dumping as far as the exporting producer KP Chemical Group, composed of Honam Petrochemicals Corp. and KP Chemical Corp. (‘KP Chemical Group’), is concerned, and of certain injury aspects.

2. Product

The product under review is polyethylene terephthalate having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher, according to the ISO Standard 1628-5, currently falling within CN code 3907 60 20 and originating in the Republic of Korea (‘the product concerned’).

3. Existing measures

The measures currently in force are a definitive anti-dumping duty imposed by Council Regulation (EC) No 192/2007 ⁽²⁾ on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate originating, inter alia, in the Republic of Korea.

4. Grounds for the review

The request pursuant to Article 11(3) is based on *prima facie* evidence, provided by the applicant, that, as far as KP Chemical Group is concerned, the circumstances on the basis of which

the existing measures were imposed have changed and that these changes are of a lasting nature.

The applicant provided *prima facie* evidence showing that, as far as KP Chemical Group is concerned, the continued imposition of the measure at the current level of zero, which has been in place since February 2007 following a combined expiry and partial interim review, is no longer sufficient to counteract the current injurious dumping. A comparison of the exporting producer’s constructed normal value and its export prices to the Union indicates the existence of a significant level of dumping.

The applicant also provided *prima facie* evidence that KP Chemical Group’s exports to the Union undercut and undersold the Union industry’s prices.

Therefore, the continued imposition of measures at the existing level, which was based on the level of dumping previously established, appears to be no longer sufficient to counteract the injurious dumping.

5. Procedure

Having determined, after consulting the Advisory Committee, that sufficient evidence exists to justify the initiation of a partial interim review, the Commission hereby initiates a review in accordance with Article 11(3) of the basic Regulation.

The investigation will assess the need for the continuation, removal or amendment of the existing measures in respect of the exporting producer concerned. As a part of that assessment, the claim that KP Chemical Group’s exports to the Union undercut and undersold the Union industry’s prices will be investigated.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 59, 27.2.2007, p. 1.

In view of the apparent large number of Union producers involved in this proceeding, the Commission may decide to apply sampling, in accordance with Article 17 of the basic Regulation.

If it is determined that measures should be amended for the exporting producer concerned, it may be necessary to amend the rate of duty currently applicable to imports of the product concerned from companies not individually mentioned in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 192/2007.

(a) *Questionnaires*

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commission will send questionnaires to the above-mentioned exporting producer, to the Union industry and to the authorities of the exporting country concerned. This information and supporting evidence should reach the Commission within the time limit set in point 6(a).

(b) *Collection of information and holding of hearings*

All interested parties are hereby invited to make their views known, submit information other than questionnaire replies and provide supporting evidence. This information and supporting evidence must reach the Commission within the time limit set in point 6(a).

Furthermore, the Commission may hear interested parties, provided that they make a request showing that there are particular reasons why they should be heard. This request must be made within the time limit set in point 6(b).

6. Time limits

(a) *For parties to make themselves known, to submit questionnaire replies and any other information*

All interested parties, if their representations are to be taken into account during the investigation, must make themselves known by contacting the Commission, present their views and submit questionnaire replies or any other information within 37 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified. Attention is drawn to the fact that the exercise of most procedural rights set out in the basic Regulation depends on the party making itself known within the aforementioned period.

(b) *Hearings*

All interested parties may also apply to be heard by the Commission within the same 37-day time limit.

7. Written submissions, questionnaire replies and correspondence

All submissions and requests made by interested parties must be made in writing (not in electronic format, unless otherwise

specified) and must indicate the name, address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers of the interested party. All written submissions, including the information requested in this notice, questionnaire replies and correspondence provided by interested parties on a confidential basis shall be labelled as 'Limited' ⁽¹⁾ and, in accordance with Article 19(2) of the basic Regulation, shall be accompanied by a non-confidential version, which will be labelled 'For inspection by interested parties'.

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8. Non-cooperation

In cases in which any interested party refuses access to or does not provide the necessary information within the time limits, or significantly impedes the investigation, findings, affirmative or negative, may be made in accordance with Article 18 of the basic Regulation, on the basis of the facts available.

Where it is found that any interested party has supplied false or misleading information, the information shall be disregarded and use may be made, in accordance with Article 18 of the basic Regulation, of the facts available. If an interested party does not cooperate or cooperates only partially, and use of facts available is made, the result may be less favourable to that party than if it had cooperated.

9. Schedule of the investigation

The investigation will be concluded, according to Article 11(5) of the basic Regulation within 15 months of the date of the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

10. Processing of personal data

It is noted that any personal data collected in this investigation will be treated in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ This means that the document is for internal use only. It is protected pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43). It is a confidential document pursuant to Article 19 of the basic Regulation and Article 6 of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (Anti-dumping Agreement).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1.

11. **Hearing Officer**

It is also noted that if interested parties consider that they are encountering difficulties in the exercise of their rights of defence, they may request the intervention of the Hearing Officer of Trade DG. He acts as an interface between the interested parties and the Commission services, offering, where necessary, mediation on procedural matters affecting the protection of their interests in this proceeding, in particular with regard to issues concerning access to file, confidentiality, extension of time limits and the treatment of written and/or oral submission of views. For further information and contact details, interested parties may consult the Hearing Officer's web pages of the website of Trade DG (<http://ec.europa.eu/trade>).
