# Official Journal of the European Union

C 115



	-	Volume 66	
English edition	Information and Notices 30 March 20	23	
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<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) Text with EEA relevance.

Π

(Information)

## INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

#### Non-opposition to a notified concentration

#### (Case M.11052 – MACQUARIE GROUP | WPD | LUWEI WIND POWER | CHUNGWEI WIND POWER | TONGWEI WIND POWER | CHINFENG WIND POWER | ANWEI WIND POWER)

#### (Text with EEA relevance)

#### (2023/C 115/01)

On 20 March 2023, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (<sup>1</sup>). The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the 'Competition policy' website of the Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/ cases/). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en) under document number 32023M11052. EUR-Lex is the online point of access to European Union law.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

#### Non-opposition to a notified concentration

#### (Case M.11004 - ITOCHU / AMCI / FITZROY QLD RESOURCES)

#### (Text with EEA relevance)

(2023/C 115/02)

On 22 March 2023, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (<sup>1</sup>). The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the 'Competition policy' website of the Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/ cases/). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en) under document number 32023M11004. EUR-Lex is the online point of access to European Union law.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

## IV

(Notices)

# NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates (1)

#### 29 March 2023

(2023/C 115/03)

#### 1 euro =

	Currency	Exchange rate		Currency	Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,0847	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,4739
JPY	Japanese yen	143,58	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	8,5147
DKK	Danish krone	7,4495	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,7405
GBP	Pound sterling	0,87988	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,4425
SEK	Swedish krona	11,2955	KRW	South Korean won	1 411,29
CHF	Swiss franc	0,9973	ZAR	South African rand	19,6494
ISK	Iceland króna	148,70	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	7,4679
NOK	Norwegian krone	11,3005	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	16 335,17
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,7927
CZK	Czech koruna	23,631	PHP	Philippine peso	59,007
HUF	Hungarian forint	379,80	RUB	Russian rouble	
PLN	Polish zloty	4,6870	THB	Thai baht	37,086
RON	Romanian leu	4,9500	BRL	Brazilian real	5,5958
TRY	Turkish lira	20,7500	MXN	Mexican peso	19,7327
AUD	Australian dollar	1,6252	INR	Indian rupee	89,2985

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

# COURT OF AUDITORS

#### Special report 08/2023

'Intermodal freight transport – EU still far from getting freight off the road'

(2023/C 115/04)

The European Court of Auditors has published its special report 08/2023: 'Intermodal freight transport – EU still far from getting freight off the road'.

The report can be consulted directly or downloaded at the European Court of Auditors' website: https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=63659

V

(Announcements)

# PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

#### Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate ('PET') originating in People's Republic of China

(2023/C 115/05)

The European Commission ('the Commission') has received a complaint pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Union (<sup>1</sup>) ('the basic Regulation'), alleging that imports of polyethylene terephthalate ('PET'), originating in People's Republic of China, are being dumped and are thereby causing injury (<sup>2</sup>) to the Union industry.

#### 1. Complaint

The complaint was lodged on 14 February 2023 by PET Europe ('the complainant'). The complaint was made on behalf of the Union industry of PET in the sense of Article 5(4) of the basic Regulation.

An open version of the complaint and the analysis of the degree of support by Union producers for the complaint are available in the file for inspection by interested parties. Section 5.6 of this Notice provides information about access to the file for interested parties.

#### 2. **Product under investigation**

The product subject to this investigation is polyethylene terephthalate ('PET'), having a viscosity of 78 ml/g or higher, according to ISO Standard 1628-5 ('the product under investigation').

All interested parties wishing to submit information on the product scope must do so within 10 days of the date of publication of this Notice (3).

#### 3. Allegation of dumping

The product allegedly being dumped is the product under investigation, originating in the People's Republic of China ('the PRC' or 'the country concerned'), currently classified under CN code 3907 61 00. The CN code is given for information only, without prejudice to their possible amendment at future steps of the proceeding. The scope of this investigation is subject to the definition of the product under investigation as contained in Section 2.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) OJ L 176, 30.6.2016, p. 21.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>) The general term 'injury' refers to material injury as well as to threat of material injury or material retardation of the establishment of an industry as set out in Article 3(1) of the basic Regulation.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>) References to the publication of this Notice mean publication of this Notice in the Official Journal of the European Union.

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The complainant claimed that it is not appropriate to use domestic prices and costs in the PRC, due to the existence of significant distortions within the meaning of point (b) of Article 2(6a) of the basic Regulation.

To substantiate the allegations of significant distortions, the complainant relied on the information contained in the Commission Staff Working Document on Significant Distortions in the Economy of the People's Republic of China for the Purposes of Trade Defence Investigations (<sup>4</sup>). In particular, the complainant claimed that the production and sale of the product under investigation appears to be affected by the factors mentioned, *inter alia*, in the chapters on land, energy, capital, raw materials labour and chemical sector of the People's Republic of China 13th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and the Outline of the People's Republic of China 14th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development Long-Range Objectives for 2035, and on the Commission's findings in recent anti-dumping investigations with regard to the existence of distortions in the labour market (<sup>5</sup>).

As a result, in view of Article 2(6a)(a) of the basic Regulation, the allegation of dumping is based on a comparison of a constructed normal value on the basis of costs of production and sale reflecting undistorted prices or benchmarks, with the export price (at ex-works level) of the product under investigation when sold for export to the Union.

The dumping margins calculated on the basis of this comparison are significant for the country concerned.

The country report is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website (°).

#### 4. Allegation of threat of injury and causation

The complainant has provided evidence that imports of the product under investigation from the country concerned have increased overall in absolute terms and in terms of market share at a significant rate indicating the likelihood of substantially increased imports.

Furthermore, the complainant provided evidence that there is sufficient freely disposable capacity in the PRC and that there is an imminent and substantial increase in such capacity, indicating the likelihood of substantially increased dumped imports that would cause injury.

The evidence provided by the complainant also shows that the prices of the imported product under investigation have had, among other consequences, a negative impact on the quantities sold by the Union industry, resulting in substantial adverse effects on the overall performance of the Union industry. The evidence also shows that the Union industry is not able to increase prices in line with the increase of raw material costs and energy prices rising globally. Despite this global trend that has also affected imports from other origins, the country concerned has been able to maintain low prices for the product under investigation, placing significant pressure on Union sales.

Finally, the complainant has also provided evidence showing an increase in inventories.

#### 5. **Procedure**

Having determined, after informing the Member States, that the complaint has been lodged by or on behalf of the Union industry and that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of a proceeding, the Commission hereby initiates an investigation pursuant to Article 5 of the basic Regulation.

<sup>(4)</sup> Commission Staff Working Document, on Significant Distortions in the Economy of the People's Republic of China for the Purposes of Trade Defence Investigations, 20 December 2017, SWD (2017) 483 final/2, available at:http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2017/ december/tradoc\_156474.pdf

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2011 of 17 November 2021 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of optical fibre cables originating in the People's Republic of China (OJ L 410, 17.11.2021, p. 51); Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/191 of 16 February 2022 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain iron or steel fasteners originating in the People's Republic of China (OJ L 410, 17.11.2021, p. 51); Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/191 of 16 February 2022 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain iron or steel fasteners originating in the People's Republic of China (OJ L 36, 16.02.2022, p. 1).

<sup>(6)</sup> Documents cited in the country report may also be obtained upon a duly reasoned request.

The investigation will determine whether the product under investigation originating in the country concerned is being dumped and whether the dumped imports, have caused injury to the Union industry.

If the conclusions are affirmative, the investigation will examine whether the imposition of measures would not be in the Union interest under Article 21 of the basic Regulation.

The Commission also draws the attention of the parties to the published Notice (<sup>7</sup>) on the consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak on anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations that may be applicable to this proceeding.

#### 5.1. Investigation period and period considered

The investigation of dumping and injury will cover the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 ('the investigation period'). The examination of trends relevant for the assessment of injury will cover the period from 1 January 2019 to the end of the investigation period ('the period considered').

#### 5.2. Comments on the complaint and the initiation of the investigation

All interested parties wishing to comment on the complaint (including matters pertaining to injury and causality) or any aspects regarding the initiation of the investigation (including the degree of support for the complaint) must do so within 37 days of the date of publication of this Notice.

Any request for a hearing with regard to the initiation of the investigation must be submitted within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice.

#### 5.3. **Procedure for the determination of dumping**

Exporting producers (<sup>8</sup>) of the product under investigation from the country concerned are invited to participate in the Commission investigation.

#### 5.3.1. Investigating exporting producers

#### (a) Sampling

In view of the potentially large number of exporting producers in the country concerned involved in this proceeding and in order to complete the investigation within the statutory time limits, the Commission may limit the exporting producers to be investigated to a reasonable number by selecting a sample (this process is also referred to as 'sampling'). The sampling will be carried out in accordance with Article 17 of the basic Regulation.

In order to enable the Commission to decide whether sampling is necessary, and if so, to select a sample, all exporting producers, or representatives acting on their behalf, are requested to provide the Commission with information on their company(ies) within 7 days of the date of publication of this Notice. This information must be provided via TRON.tdi ('TRON') at the following address: https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/tron/tdi/form/ AD693\_SAMPLING\_FORM\_FOR\_EXPORTING\_PRODUCER. TRON access information can be found in sections 5.6 and 5.8 below.

In order to obtain information it deems necessary for the selection of the sample of exporting producers, the Commission has also contacted the authorities of the country concerned and may contact any known associations of exporting producers.

If a sample is necessary, the exporting producers may be selected based on the largest representative volume of exports to the Union which can reasonably be investigated within the time available. All known exporting producers, the authorities of the country concerned and associations of exporting producers will be notified by the Commission, via the authorities of the country concerned if appropriate, of the companies selected to be in the sample.

<sup>(7)</sup> On the consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak on anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations (OJ C 86, 16.3.2020, p. 6).

<sup>(\*)</sup> An exporting producer is any company in the country concerned which produces and exports the product under investigation to the Union market, either directly or via a third party, including any of its related companies involved in the production, domestic sales or exports of the product under investigation.

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Once the Commission has received the necessary information to select a sample of exporting producers, it will inform the parties concerned of its decision whether they are included in the sample. The sampled exporting producers will have to submit a completed questionnaire within 30 days from the date of notification of the decision of their inclusion in the sample, unless otherwise specified.

The Commission will add a note reflecting the sample selection to the file for inspection by interested parties. Any comment on the sample selection must be received within 3 days of the date of notification of the sample decision.

A copy of the questionnaire for exporting producers is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website:

https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-view?caseId=2661

The questionnaire will also be made available to any known association of exporting producers, and to the authorities of that country.

Without prejudice to the possible application of Article 18 of the basic Regulation, exporting producers that have agreed to be included in the sample but are not selected as part of the sample will be considered to be cooperating ('non-sampled cooperating exporting producers'). Without prejudice to section 5.3.1(b) below, the anti-dumping duty that may be applied to imports from non-sampled cooperating exporting producers will not exceed the weighted average margin of dumping established for the exporting producers in the sample (').

(b) Individual dumping margin for exporting producers not included in the sample

Pursuant to Article 17(3) of the basic Regulation, non-sampled cooperating exporting producers may request the Commission to establish their individual dumping margins. Exporting producers wishing to claim an individual dumping margin must fill in the questionnaire and return it duly completed within 30 days of the date of notification of the sample selection, unless otherwise specified. A copy of the questionnaire for exporting producers is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website https://tron.trade. ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-view?caseId=2661. The Commission will examine whether non-sampled cooperating exporting producers can be granted an individual duty in accordance with Article 9(5) of the basic Regulation.

However, non-sampled cooperating exporting producers claiming an individual dumping margin should be aware that the Commission may nonetheless decide not to determine their individual dumping margin if, for instance, the number of non-sampled cooperating exporting producers is so large that such determination would be unduly burdensome and would prevent the timely completion of the investigation.

#### 5.3.2. Additional procedure with regard to the country concerned subject to significant distortions

In light of the information available, the Commission considers that there is sufficient evidence pursuant to Article 5(9) of the basic Regulation tending to show that, due to significant distortions affecting prices and costs, the use of domestic prices and costs in the country concerned is inappropriate, thus warranting the initiation of an investigation on the basis of Article 2(6a) of the basic Regulation.

Subject to the provisions of this Notice, all interested parties are invited to make their views known, submit information and provide supporting evidence regarding the application of Article 2(6a) of the basic Regulation. Unless otherwise specified, this information and supporting evidence must reach the Commission within 37 days of the date of publication of this Notice.

In particular, the Commission invites all interested parties to make their views known on the inputs and the Harmonised System (HS) codes provided in the complaint, propose (an) appropriate representative country(ies) and provide the identity of producers of the product under investigation in those countries. This information and supporting evidence must reach the Commission within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice.

<sup>(9)</sup> Pursuant to Article 9(6) of the basic Regulation, any zero and *de minimis* margins, and margins established in accordance with the circumstances described in Article 18 of the basic Regulation will be disregarded.

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Pursuant to point (e) of Article 2(6a) of the basic Regulation, the Commission will shortly after initiation inform parties to the investigation about the relevant sources, including, where appropriate, the selection of an appropriate representative third country that it intends to use for the purpose of determining normal value pursuant to Article 2(6a) by means of a note to the file for inspection by interested parties. Parties to the investigation will be given 10 days to comment on the note, in accordance with point (e) of Article 2(6a).

With the aim of finally selecting the appropriate representative third country, the Commission will examine whether those third countries have a similar level of economic development as that of the country concerned, whether there is production and sales of the product under investigation in those third countries and whether relevant data are readily available. Where there is more than one representative third country, preference will be given, where appropriate, to countries with an adequate level of social and environmental protection. According to the information available to the Commission, a possible appropriate representative third country is Türkiye.

In the context of this exercise, the Commission invites all producers in the country concerned to provide information on the materials (raw and processed) and energy used in the production of the product under investigation within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice. This information must be provided via TRON.tdi at the following address:

https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/tron/tdi/form/AD693\_INFO\_ON\_INPUTS\_FOR\_EXPORTING\_PRODUCER\_FORM. TRON access information can be found in sections 5.6 and 5.8 below.

Furthermore, any submissions of factual information to value costs and prices pursuant to point (a) of Article 2(6a) of the basic Regulation must be filed within 65 days of the date of publication of this Notice. Such factual information should be taken exclusively from public sources which are readily available.

#### 5.3.3. Investigating unrelated importers (<sup>10</sup>) (<sup>11</sup>)

Unrelated importers of the product under investigation from the country concerned to the Union are invited to participate in this investigation.

In view of the potentially large number of unrelated importers involved in this proceeding and in order to complete the investigation within the statutory time limits, the Commission may limit to a reasonable number the unrelated importers that will be investigated by selecting a sample (this process is also referred to as 'sampling'). The sampling will be carried out in accordance with Article 17 of the basic Regulation.

In order to enable the Commission to decide whether sampling is necessary and, if so, to select a sample, all unrelated importers, or representatives acting on their behalf, are requested to provide the Commission with the information on their company(ies) requested in the Annex to this Notice within 7 days of the date of publication of this Notice.

<sup>(10)</sup> This section covers only importers not related to exporting producers. Importers that are related to exporting producers have to fill in Annex I to the questionnaire for these exporting producers. In accordance with Article 127 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code, two persons shall be deemed to be related if: (a) they are officers or directors of the other person's business; (b) they are legally recognised partners in business; (c) they are employer and employee; (d) a third party directly or indirectly controls or holds 5 % or more of the outstanding voting stock or shares of both of them; (e) one of them directly or indirectly controls the other; (f) both of them are directly or indirectly controlled by a third person; (g) together they control a third person directly or indirectly; or (h) they are members of the same family (OJ L 343, 29.12.2015, p. 558). Persons shall be deemed to be members of the same family only if they stand in any of the following relationships to one another: (i) husband and wife, (ii) parent and child, (iii) brother and sister (whether by whole or half blood), (iv) grandparent and grandchild, (v) uncle or aunt and nephew or nicce, (vi) parent-in-law and son-in-law or daughter-in-law, (vii) brother-in-law and sister-in-law. In accordance with Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code, "person" means a natural person, a legal person, and any association of persons which is not a legal person but which is recognised under Union or national law as having the capacity to perform legal acts (OJ L 269, 10.10.2013, p. 1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> The data provided by unrelated importers may also be used in relation to aspects of this investigation other than the determination of dumping.

In order to obtain information it deems necessary for the selection of the sample of unrelated importers, the Commission may also contact any known associations of importers.

If a sample is necessary, the importers may be selected based on the largest representative volume of sales of the product under investigation in the Union which can reasonably be investigated within the time available.

Once the Commission has received the necessary information to select a sample, it will inform the parties concerned of its decision on the sample of importers. The Commission will also add a note reflecting the sample selection to the file for inspection by interested parties. Any comment on the sample selection must be received within 3 days from the notification of the sample decision.

In order to obtain information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commission will make available questionnaires to the sampled unrelated importers. Those parties must submit a completed questionnaire within 30 days from the date of the notification of the decision about the sample, unless otherwise specified.

A copy of the questionnaire for importers is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website: https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-view?caseId=2661

#### 5.4. **Procedure for the determination of injury and investigating Union producers**

A determination of injury is based on positive evidence and involves an objective examination of the volume of the dumped imports, their effect on prices on the Union market and the consequent impact of those imports on the Union industry. In order to establish whether the Union industry is injured within the meaning of Article 3.9. of the basic Regulation, Union producers of the product under investigation are invited to participate in the Commission investigation.

In view of the large number of Union producers concerned and in order to complete the investigation within the statutory time limits, the Commission has decided to limit to a reasonable number the Union producers that will be investigated by selecting a sample (this process is also referred to as 'sampling'). The sampling is carried out in accordance with Article 17 of the basic Regulation.

The Commission has provisionally selected a sample of Union producers. Details can be found in the file for inspection by interested parties. Interested parties are invited to comment on the provisional sample. In addition, other Union producers, or representatives acting on their behalf, who consider that there are reasons why they should be included in the sample must contact the Commission within 7 days of the date of publication of this Notice. All comments regarding the provisional sample must be received within 7 days of the date of publication of this Notice, unless otherwise specified.

All known Union producers and associations of Union producers will be notified by the Commission of the companies finally selected to be in the sample.

The sampled Union producers will have to submit a completed questionnaire within 30 days from the date of notification of the decision of their inclusion in the sample, unless otherwise specified.

A copy of the questionnaire for Union producers is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website: https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-view?caseId=2661

#### 5.5. **Procedure for the assessment of Union interest**

Should the existence of dumping and injury caused be established, a decision will be reached, pursuant to Article 21 of the basic Regulation, as to whether the adoption of anti-dumping measures would not be in the Union interest. Union producers, importers and their representative associations, users and their representative associations, trade unions and representative consumer organisations are invited to provide the Commission with information as to whether the imposition of measures is not in the Union interest. In order to participate in the investigation, the representative consumer organisations have to demonstrate that there is an objective link between their activities and the product under investigation.

Information concerning the assessment of Union interest must be provided within 37 days of the date of publication of this Notice unless otherwise specified. This information may be provided either in a free format or by completing a questionnaire prepared by the Commission. A copy of the questionnaires, including the questionnaire for users of the product under investigation, is available in the file for inspection by interested parties and on DG Trade's website: https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-view?caseId=2661

The information submitted pursuant to Article 21 of the basic Regulation will only be taken into account if supported by factual evidence at the time of submission.

#### 5.6. Interested parties

In order to participate in the investigation interested parties, such as exporting producers, Union producers, importers and their representative associations, users and their representative associations, trade unions and representative consumer organisations must demonstrate that there is an objective link between their activities and the product under investigation.

Exporting producers, Union producers, importers and representative associations who made information available in accordance to the procedures described in sections 5.3.1, 5.3.3 and 5.4 above will be considered as interested parties if there is an objective link between their activities and the product under investigation.

Other parties will only be able to participate in the investigation as interested party from the moment they make themselves known, and provided that there is an objective link between their activities and the product under investigation. Being considered as an interested party is without prejudice to the application of Article 18 of the basic Regulation.

Access to the file available for inspection for interested parties is made via TRON.tdi at the following address: https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/tron/TDI. Please follow the instructions on that page to get access (<sup>12</sup>).

#### 5.7. **Possibility to be heard by the Commission investigation services**

All interested parties may request to be heard by the Commission's investigation services.

Any request for a hearing must be made in writing and must specify the reasons for the request as well as a summary of what the interested party wishes to discuss during the hearing. The hearing will be limited to the issues set out by the interested parties in writing beforehand.

The timeframe for hearings is as follows:

- For any hearings to take place before the deadline for the imposition of provisional measures, a request should be made within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. The hearing will normally take place within 60 days of the date of publication of this Notice.
- After the stage of provisional findings, a request should be made within 5 days from the date of the disclosure of the provisional findings or of the information document. The hearing will normally take place within 15 days from the date of notification of the disclosure or the date of the information document.
- At the stage of definitive findings, a request should be made within 3 days from the date of the final disclosure. The hearing will normally take place within the period granted to comment on the final disclosure. If there is an additional final disclosure, a request should be made immediately upon receipt of this additional final disclosure. The hearing will then normally take place within the deadline to provide comments on this disclosure.

The outlined timeframe is without prejudice to the right of the Commission services to accept hearings outside the timeframe in duly justified cases and to the right of the Commission to deny hearings in duly justified cases. Where the Commission services refuse a hearing request, the party concerned will be informed of the reasons for such refusal.

 $<sup>(^{12})</sup>$  In case of technical problems please contact the Trade Service Desk by email trade-service-desk@ec.europa.eu or by telephone +32 22979797.

In principle, hearings will not be used to present factual information which is not yet on file. Nevertheless, in the interest of good administration and to enable Commission services to progress with the investigation, interested parties may be directed to provide new factual information after a hearing.

#### 5.8. Instructions for making written submissions and sending completed questionnaires and correspondence

Information submitted to the Commission for the purpose of trade defence investigations shall be free from copyrights. Interested parties, before submitting to the Commission information and/or data which is subject to third party copyrights, must request specific permission to the copyright holder explicitly allowing the Commission a) to use the information and data for the purpose of this trade defence proceeding and b) to provide the information and/or data to interested parties to this investigation in a form that allows them to exercise their rights of defence.

All written submissions, including the information requested in this Notice, completed questionnaires and correspondence provided by interested parties for which confidential treatment is requested shall be labelled 'Sensitive' (<sup>13</sup>). Parties submitting information in the course of this investigation are invited to reason their request for confidential treatment.

Parties providing 'Sensitive' information are required to furnish non-confidential summaries of it pursuant to Article 19(2) of the basic Regulation, which will be labelled 'For inspection by interested parties'. Those summaries should be sufficiently detailed to permit a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information submitted in confidence.

If a party providing confidential information fails to show good cause for a confidential treatment request or does not furnish a non-confidential summary of it in the requested format and quality, the Commission may disregard such information unless it can be satisfactorily demonstrated from appropriate sources that the information is correct.

Interested parties are invited to make all submissions and requests via TRON.tdi (https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/ tron/TDI) including requests to be registered as interested parties, scanned powers of attorney and certification sheets. By using TRON.tdi or email, interested parties express their agreement with the rules applicable to electronic submissions contained in the document 'CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN TRADE DEFENCE CASES' published on the website of DG Trade: https://europa.eu/!7tHpY3. The interested parties must indicate their name, address, telephone and a valid e-mail address and they should ensure that the provided email address is a functioning official business email which is checked on a daily basis. Once contact details are provided, the Commission will communicate with interested parties by TRON.tdi or email only, unless they explicitly request to receive all documents from the Commission by another means of communication or unless the nature of the document to be sent requires the use of a registered mail. For further rules and information concerning correspondence with the Commission including principles that apply to submissions via TRON.tdi and by email, interested parties should consult the communication instructions with interested parties referred to above.

Commission address for correspondence:

European Commission Directorate-General for Trade Directorate G Office: CHAR 04/039 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel BELGIQUE/BELGIË

#### Email: TRADE-AD693-PET-INJURY@ec.europa.eu

TRADE-AD693-PET-DUMPING@ec.europa.eu

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>) A 'Sensitive' document is a document which is considered confidential 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). It is also a document protected pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

#### 6. Schedule of the investigation

The investigation will be concluded, pursuant to Article 6(9) of the basic Regulation within normally 13, but not more than 14 months of the date of the publication of this Notice. In accordance with Article 7(1) of the basic Regulation, provisional measures may be imposed normally not later than 7 months, but in any event not later than 8 months from the publication of this Notice.

In accordance with Article 19a of the basic Regulation, the Commission will provide information on the planned imposition of provisional duties 4 weeks before the imposition of provisional measures. Interested parties will be given 3 working days to comment in writing on the accuracy of the calculations.

In cases where the Commission intends not to impose provisional duties but to continue the investigation, interested parties will be informed, by means of an information document, of the non-imposition of duties 4 weeks before the expiry of the deadline under Article 7(1) of the basic Regulation.

Interested parties will be given 15 days to comment in writing on the provisional findings or on the information document, and 10 days to comment in writing on the definitive findings, unless otherwise specified. Where applicable, additional final disclosures will specify the deadline for interested parties to comment in writing.

#### 7. Submission of information

As a rule, interested parties may only submit information in the timeframes specified in sections 5 and 6 of this Notice. The submission of any other information not covered by those sections, should respect the following timetable:

- Any information for the stage of provisional findings should be submitted within 70 days from the date of
  publication of this Notice, unless otherwise specified.
- Unless otherwise specified, interested parties should not submit new factual information after the deadline to comment on the disclosure of the provisional findings or the information document at the stage of provisional findings. After this deadline, interested parties may only submit new factual information if they can demonstrate that such new factual information is necessary to rebut factual allegations made by other interested parties and provided that such new factual information can be verified within the time available to complete the investigation in a timely manner.
- In order to complete the investigation within the mandatory deadlines, the Commission will not accept submissions from interested parties after the deadline to provide comments on the final disclosure or, if applicable, after the deadline to provide comments on the additional final disclosure.

#### 8. **Possibility to comment on other parties' submissions**

In order to guarantee the rights of defence, interested parties should have the possibility to comment on information submitted by other interested parties. When doing so, interested parties may only address issues raised in the other interested parties' submissions and may not raise new issues.

Such comments should be made according to the following timeframe:

- Any comment on information submitted by other interested parties before the deadline of imposition of
  provisional measures should be made at the latest on day 75 from the date of publication of this Notice, unless
  otherwise specified.
- Comments on the information provided by other interested parties in reaction to the disclosure of the provisional findings or of the information document should be submitted within 7 days from the deadline to comment on the provisional findings or on the information document, unless otherwise specified.
- Comments on the information provided by other interested parties in reaction to the final disclosure should be submitted within 3 days from the deadline to comment on the final disclosure, unless otherwise specified. If there is an additional final disclosure, comments on the information provided by other interested parties in reaction to this disclosure should be made within 1 day from the deadline to comment on this disclosure, unless otherwise specified.

The outlined timeframe is without prejudice to the Commission's right to request additional information from interested parties in duly justified cases.

#### 9. Extension to time limits specified in this Notice

Any extension to the time limits provided for in this Notice should only be requested in exceptional circumstances and will only be granted if duly justified upon good cause being shown.

In any event, any extension to the deadline to reply to questionnaires will be limited normally to 3 days, and as a rule will not exceed 7 days.

Regarding time limits for the submission of other information specified in the Notice of Initiation, extensions will be limited to 3 days unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated.

#### 10. Non-cooperation

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

Where it is found that any interested party has supplied false or misleading information, the information may be disregarded and use may be made of facts available.

If an interested party does not cooperate or cooperates only partially and findings are therefore based on facts available in accordance with Article 18 of the basic Regulation, the result may be less favourable to that party than if it had cooperated.

Failure to give a computerised response shall not be deemed to constitute non-cooperation, provided that the interested party shows that presenting the response as requested would result in an unreasonable extra burden or unreasonable additional cost. In this case the interested party should immediately contact the Commission.

#### 11. Hearing Officer

Interested parties may request the intervention of the Hearing Officer for trade proceedings. The Hearing Officer reviews requests for access to the file, disputes regarding the confidentiality of documents, requests for extension of time limits and any other request concerning the rights of defence of interested parties and third parties as may arise during the proceeding.

The Hearing Officer may organise hearings and mediate between the interested party or parties and the Commission services to ensure that the interested parties' rights of defence are being fully exercised. A request for a hearing with the Hearing Officer should be made in writing and should specify the reasons for the request. The Hearing Officer will examine the reasons for the requests. These hearings should only take place if the issues have not been settled with the Commission services in due course.

Interested parties are invited to follow the timeframes set out in section 5.7 of this Notice also as regards interventions, including hearings, by the Hearing Officer. Any request must be submitted in good time and expeditiously so as not to jeopardise the orderly conduct of proceedings. To that effect, interested parties should request the intervention of the Hearing Officer at the earliest possible time following the occurrence of the event justifying such intervention. The Hearing Officer will examine the reasons for requests for interventions, the nature of the issues raised and the impact of those issues on the rights of defence, having due regard to the interests of good administration and the timely completion of the investigation.

For further information and contact details interested parties may consult the Hearing Officer's web pages on DG Trade's website: https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/contacts/hearing-officer\_en

#### 12. Processing of personal data

Any personal data collected in this investigation will be treated in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council (<sup>14</sup>).

A data protection notice that informs all individuals of the processing of personal data in the framework of Commission's trade defence activities is available on DG Trade's website: https://europa.eu/!vr4g9W

<sup>(14)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

ANNEX

'Sensitive' version

□ Version 'For inspection by interested parties'

(tick the	e appropriate	box)
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# ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDING CONCERNING IMPORTS OF POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE ('PET') ORIGINATING IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

#### INFORMATION FOR THE SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE OF UNRELATED IMPORTERS

This form is designed to assist unrelated importers in responding to the request for sampling information made in point 5.3.3 of the Notice of initiation.

Both the 'Sensitive' version and the version 'For inspection by interested parties' should be returned to the Commission as set out in the notice of initiation.

#### 1. IDENTITY AND CONTACT DETAILS

Supply the following details about your company:

Company name	
Address	
Contact person	
Email address	
Telephone	

#### 2. TURNOVER AND SALES VOLUME

Indicate the total turnover in euros (EUR) of the company, the value in euros (EUR) and volume in tonnes for imports and resales on the Union market after importation from People's Republic of China, during the investigation period, of the product under investigation as defined in the notice of initiation.

	Tonnes	Value in euros (EUR)
Total turnover of your company in euros (EUR)		
Imports of the product under investigation originating in the People's Republic of China		
Imports of the product under investigation (all origins)		
Resales on the Union market after importation from the People's Republic of China of the product under investigation		

#### 3. ACTIVITIES OF YOUR COMPANY AND RELATED COMPANIES (1)

Give details of the precise activities of the company and all related companies (please list them and state the relationship to your company) involved in the production and/or selling (export and/or domestic) of the product under investigation. Such activities could include but are not limited to purchasing the product under investigation, producing it under sub-contracting arrangements, or processing or trading it.

Company name and location	Activities	Relationship

#### 4. OTHER INFORMATION

Please provide any other relevant information which the company considers useful to assist the Commission in the selection of the sample.

#### 5. CERTIFICATION

By providing the above information, the company agrees to its possible inclusion in the sample. If the company is selected to be part of the sample, this will involve completing a questionnaire and accepting a visit at its premises in order to verify its response. If the company indicates that it does not agree to its possible inclusion in the sample, it will be deemed not to have cooperated in the investigation. The Commission's findings for non-cooperating importers are based on the facts available and the result may be less favourable to that company than if it had cooperated.

Signature of authorised official:

Name and title of authorised official:

Date:

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) In accordance with Article 127 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code, two persons shall be deemed to be related if: (a) they are officers or directors of the other person's business; (b) they are legally recognised partners in business; (c) they are employer and employee; (d) a third party directly or indirectly owns, controls or holds 5 % or more of the outstanding voting stock or shares of both of them; (e) one of them directly or indirectly controls the other; (f) both of them are directly or indirectly controlled by a third person; (g) together they control a third person directly; or (h) they are members of the same family (OJ L 343, 29.12.2015, p. 558). Persons shall be deemed to be members of the same family only if they stand in any of the following relationships to one another: (i) husband and wife, (ii) parent and child, (iii) brother and sister (whether by whole or half blood), (iv) grandparent and grandchild, (v) uncle or aunt and nephew or nicce, (vi) parent-in-law and son-in-law or daughter-in-law, (vii) brother-in-law and sister-in-law. In accordance with Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code, "person" means a natural person, a legal person, and any association of persons which is not a legal person but which is recognised under Union or national law as having the capacity to perform legal acts (OJ L 269, 10.10.2013, p. 1).

EN

# Notice concerning the creation of certain Tariff Rate Quotas under the steel safeguard measure in connection to the amendment to Regulation (EU) 2020/2170

(2023/C 115/06)

On 31 January 2019, the European Commission ('the Commission') imposed definitive safeguard measures on certain steel products (the 'Definitive Safeguard Regulation') (<sup>1</sup>).

On 27 February 2023, the Commission submitted a proposal to the European Parliament and the Council for an amendment of Regulation (EU) 2020/2170 as regards the application of Union tariff rate quotas and other import quotas to certain products transferred to Northern Ireland (<sup>2</sup>). According to the proposal, certain steel products originating in the United Kingdom and consigned directly from other parts of the United Kingdom into Northern Ireland should be allowed to benefit from the relevant Union tariff rate quotas when transferred to Northern Ireland. In the event that this proposal is adopted, the steel safeguard measure would need to be amended by creating dedicated Tariff Rate Quotas ('TRQs') for transfers of the certain steel product categories, as covered by the proposal, which originate in the United Kingdom and are consigned directly from other parts of the United Kingdom into Northern Ireland.

#### 1. Product scope

The amendment to the steel safeguard measure concerns only two product categories: Non Alloy and Other Alloy Quarto Plates (<sup>3</sup>) (category 7) and Angles, Shapes and Sections of Iron or Non Alloy Steel (<sup>4</sup>) (category 17).

#### 2. Scope of the proceeding

The scope of this proceeding is limited to the creation of two dedicated TRQs for transfers of categories 7 and 17 originating in the United Kingdom and consigned directly from other parts of the United Kingdom into Northern Ireland.

#### 3. Methodology

The Commission considers that the most appropriate methodology to calculate the volume for these new TRQs should be the following:

- a) To use the statistical data available (5) for the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2022;
- b) To annualize the data to obtain the volume that would constitute the TRQ for a year;
- c) To allocate the volumes quarterly proportionate to the number of days in each quarter.

In light of the above methodology, Annex I to this Notice contains the resulting TRQ volumes per product category and origin on an annual basis.

The proposed TRQ do not affect in any way the volumes or administration of the existing global TRQs in these two categories.

#### 3.1. Written submissions

The Commission invites interested parties to comment exclusively on the proposed new TRQs resulting from the adaptation. The scope of the comments shall be limited to the methodology applied in order to adapt the TRQs.

Any submission, and supporting evidence, must reach the Commission within **10 days** of the date of publication of this Notice in the Official Journal of the European Union.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/159 of 31 January 2019 imposing definitive safeguard measures against imports of certain steel products; OJ L 31, 1.2.2019, p. 27.

<sup>(2)</sup> COM(2023) 125 final 2023/0063 (COD), 27.2.2023

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>) CN codes: 7208 51 20, 7208 51 91, 7208 51 98, 7208 52 91, 7208 90 20, 7208 90 80, 7210 90 30, 7225 40 12, 7225 40 40, 7225 40 60, 7225 99 00.

<sup>(\*)</sup> CN codes: 7216 31 10, 7216 31 90, 7216 32 11, 7216 32 19, 7216 32 91, 7216 32 99, 7216 33 10, 7216 33 90.

<sup>(5)</sup> Data available from the electronic system set up on the basis of Articles 55 and 56 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015

#### 3.2. Submission of information and extension to time limits specified in this Notice

As a rule, interested parties may only submit information within the timeframes specified in this Notice. Any extension to the time limits provided for in this Notice can only be requested in exceptional circumstances and will only be granted if duly justified. Duly justified exceptional extensions to the deadline to make submission will normally be limited to **3 additional days**.

#### 3.3. Instructions for making written submissions

In order to ensure consistency amongst submissions and their swift handling and assessment, the Commission has designed a **Template that parties must use when submitting their comments**. The template is available as Annex II to this Notice.

Information submitted to the Commission for the purpose of trade defence proceeding shall be free from copyrights. Interested parties, before submitting to the Commission information and/or data which is subject to third party copyrights, must request specific permission to the copyright holder explicitly allowing the Commission a) to use the information and data for the purpose of this trade defence proceeding and b) to provide the information and/or data to interested parties to this investigation in a form that allows them to exercise their rights of defence.

All written submissions provided by interested parties for which confidential treatment is requested shall be labelled 'Limited' (<sup>6</sup>). Parties submitting information in the course of this investigation are invited to reason their request for confidential treatment.

Parties providing 'Limited' information are required to furnish non-confidential summaries of it pursuant to Article 8 of EU Regulation 2015/478 (<sup>7</sup>) and Article 5 of EU Regulation 2015/755 (<sup>8</sup>), which will be labelled 'For inspection by interested parties'. Those summaries should be sufficiently detailed to permit a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information submitted in confidence and must reach the Commission at the same time of the 'Limited' version.

If a party providing confidential information fails to show good cause for a confidential treatment request or does not furnish a non-confidential summary of it in the requested format and quality, the Commission may disregard such information unless it can be satisfactorily demonstrated from appropriate sources that the information is correct.

Interested parties are invited to make all submissions and requests via TRON.tdi (https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/tron/ TDI) including scanned powers of attorney. By using TRON.tdi or e-mail, interested parties express their agreement with the rules applicable to electronic submissions contained in the document '**CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN TRADE DEFENCE CASES**' published on the website of the Directorate-General for Trade: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2011/june/tradoc\_148003.pdf

The interested parties must indicate their name, address, telephone and a valid e-mail address and they should ensure that the provided e-mail address is a functioning official business email which is checked on a daily basis. Once contact details are provided, the Commission will communicate with interested parties by TRON.tdi or email only, unless they explicitly request to receive all documents from the Commission by another means of communication or unless the nature of the document to be sent requires the use of a registered mail. For further rules and information concerning correspondence with the Commission including principles that apply to submissions via TRON.tdi, interested parties should consult the communication instructions with interested parties referred to above.

Commission address for correspondence:

European Commission Directorate-General for Trade Directorate G, unit G5 Office: CHAR 03/66 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel BELGIQUE/BELGIË

<sup>(6)</sup> A 'Limited' document is a document which is considered confidential pursuant to Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2015/478, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2015/755 and Article 3.2 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards. It is also a document protected pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(7)</sup> OJ L 83, 27.3.2015, p. 16.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>) OJ L 123, 19.5.2015, p. 33.

TRON.tdi: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tron/tdi

Email address: TRADE-SAFE009-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu

#### 4. Schedule

If the proposal for amending the TRQ Regulation is adopted by the co-legislators, the amendment to the EU steel safeguard regulation will enter into force as soon as possible thereafter.

#### 5. Hearing Officer

The Hearing Officer acts as an interface between the interested parties and the Commission investigation services. The Hearing Officer reviews requests for access to the file, disputes regarding the confidentiality of documents, requests for extension of time limits and any other request concerning the rights of defence of interested parties and third parties as may arise during the proceeding.

Interested parties may request an intervention of the Hearing Officer. In principle, these interventions shall be limited to the issues that may arise during the current proceeding.

A request for an intervention of the Hearing Officer should be made in writing and should specify the reasons for the request. The Hearing Officer will examine the reasons for requests, having due regard to the interests of good administration and the timely completion of the investigation.

For further information and contact details interested parties may consult the Hearing Officer's web pages on DG Trade's website: http://ec.europa.eu/trade/trade-policy-and-you/contacts/hearing-officer/.

#### 6. Processing of personal data

Any personal data collected in this investigation will be treated in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council (%).

A data protection notice that informs all individuals of the processing of personal data in the framework of Commission's trade defence activities is available on DG Trade's website: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/ 157639.htm

<sup>(\*)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

30.3.2023

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

Product Number	Product category	CN Codes	Allocation by country (Where Applicable)	Year 6				
				From 1.7.2023 to 30.9.2023	From 1.10.2023 to 31.12.2023	From 1.1.2024 to 31.3.2024	From 1.4.2024 to 30.6.2024	Additional duty rate
					Volume of tariff quota (net tonnes)			
		7208 51 20,	Ukraine (1)	280 051,01	280 051,01	277 006,97	277 006,97	25 %
		7208 51 91, 7208 51 98,	Other countries	575 178,29	575 178,29	568 926,35	568 926,35	25 %
Non Alloy and 7 Other Alloy Quarto Plates	7208 52 91, and 7208 90 20, oy 7208 90 80,	United Kingdom (to Northern Ireland from other parts of the United Kingdom)	5 231,58	5 231,58	5 174,72	5 174,72	25 %	
	Angles, Shapes and Sections of Iron or Non Alloy Steel	d Sections of 7216 32 19, ron or Non 7216 32 91,	Ukraine	31 232,21	31 232,21	30 892,73	30 892,73	25 %
17 a			Other countries	67 361,21	67 361,21	66 629,03	66 629,03	25 %
			United Kingdom (to Northern Ireland from other parts of the United Kingdom)	14 061,23	14 061,23	13 908,39	13 908,39	25 %

(<sup>1</sup>) Even if Ukraine appears listed in the Annex, those country-specific quotas having an order number linked to them are not applicable as a result of Regulation (EU) 2022/870 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on temporary trade-liberalisation measures supplementing trade concessions applicable to Ukrainian products under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part (OJ L 152, 3.6.2022, p. 103).

#### ANNEX II

#### **TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS**

- 1. In case you have any comments regarding the methodology explained in Section 3 of the Notice, please explain, **in the Box below and in a maximum of two pages**, the reasons therefor and provide an alternative methodology. If you wish to provide the Commission with an alternative methodology to calculate the TRQ volumes, please attach the resulting revised calculations **in a separate Excel file**.
- 2. □ I attach a separate Excel calculations file (tick the box where appropriate)
  - A) Reasons for an alternative methodology:
  - B) Alternative methodology:

# PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.11008 – CDC GROUP / EDF / ENGIE / IN GROUPE / ARCHIPELS) Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2023/C 115/07)

1. On 21 March 2023, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (<sup>1</sup>).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations ('CDC', France),
- Électricité de France S.A. ('EDF', France),
- ENGIE S.A. ('Engie', France),
- Imprimerie Nationale S.A. ('IN', France),
- Archipels S.A.S. ('Archipels', France).

CDC, EDF, Engie and IN will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Archipels.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:
- CDC: a French public institution with special legal status, carrying out activities of general interest and activities open to competition in the environmental, real-estate, investment and capital investment, and services sectors,
- EDF: an undertaking operating in France and abroad, producing and selling electricity on the wholesale market, transmitting, distributing and supplying electricity, providing other electricity-related services and, to a lesser extent, producing and selling gas on the wholesale and retail markets,
- Engie: an undertaking operating worldwide in the natural gas, electricity and energy services business,
- IN: an undertaking operating, in France and abroad, in the physical identification services and secure digital services sector,
- Archipels: an undertaking operating in France providing blockchain-based anchoring and certification of documents and information related to individuals and companies, and managing files containing information on companies and individuals.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

EN

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (<sup>2</sup>), it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission no later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.11008 - CDC GROUP / EDF / ENGIE / IN GROUPE / ARCHIPELS

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Postal address:

European Commission Directorate-General for Competition Merger Registry 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel BELGIQUE/BELGIË

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

#### Prior notification of a concentration

#### (Case M.10917 – SCHÜCO / METALLINVEST / RSFB / AWB)

#### (Text with EEA relevance)

(2023/C 115/08)

1. On 22 March 2023, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (<sup>1</sup>).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Schüco International KG ('Schüco', Germany), part oft he Otto Fuchs Beteiligungen KG ('Otto Fuchs', Germany),
- Metallinvest Holding GmbH ('Metallinvest', Austria),
- RSFB Technologie Ges mbH, ('RSFB', Austria),
- AWB Aluminiumwerk Berlin GmbH ('AWB', Germany).

Schüco, Metallinvest and RSFB will acquire within the meaning of Articles 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of AWB.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:
- Schüco is active in the development, manufacturing, and sale of building systems for facades made of aluminium, steel and plastic,
- Metallinvest acquires and manages holdings in other companies, particularly those in the metal industry,
- RSFB operates solely as a holding company,
- AWB is active in extrusions of aluminium soft alloys.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.10917 - SCHÜCO / METALLINVEST / RSFB / AWB

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Postal address:

European Commission Directorate-General for Competition Merger Registry 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel BELGIQUE/BELGIË

(1) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

ISSN 1977-091X (electronic edition) ISSN 1725-2423 (paper edition)

