

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Safeguards

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NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(b) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS ON FINDING A SERIOUS INJURY OR THREAT THEREOF CAUSED BY INCREASED IMPORTS

UNITED STATES

The following communication, dated 8 November 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

Pursuant to Article 12.1(b) of the Agreement, and in light of the formats for notifications adopted by the Committee (G/SG/W/1, 23 February 1995), the United States provides notification of a finding of serious injury caused by increased imports of circular welded carbon quality line pipe.

1. Evidence of serious injury or threat thereof caused by increased imports

On 28 October 1999, the US International Trade Commission (USITC) voted 5-1 that circular welded carbon quality line pipe is being imported in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause, or threat thereof, of serious injury to the domestic circular welded carbon quality line pipe industry. The USITC is now considering the appropriate remedy to recommend to the President, and will forward its injury findings and remedy recommendations to the President by 27 December 1999. This report will contain the USITC's analysis and a summary of the information collected during the investigation. The United States will provide a copy of this report, excluding confidential business information, to the Committee shortly after it is submitted to the President.

2. Provide information on whether there is an absolute increase in imports or an increase in imports relative to domestic production

The information regarding increased imports will be contained in the USITC report noted in (1.) above.

3. Provide a precise description of the product involved

For purposes of this investigation, carbon quality is defined to mean: products in which (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements, (2) the carbon content is 2 per cent or less, by weight, and (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated:

1.80 per cent of manganese, or
2.25 per cent of silicon, or
1.00 per cent of copper, or
0.50 per cent of aluminium, or

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1.25 per cent of chromium, or
0.30 per cent of cobalt, or
0.40 per cent of lead, or
1.25 per cent of nickel, or
0.30 per cent of tungsten, or
0.10 per cent of molybdenum, or
0.10 per cent of niobium, or
0.15 per cent of vanadium, or
0.15 per cent of zirconium line pipe of circular cross-section, of a kind used for oil and gas pipelines, whether or not stencilled. Such line pipe is classified in subheadings 7306.10.10 and 7306.10.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

4.-8. The report described in para (1.) above are among the factors that the President is statutorily obliged to consider in determining whether a safeguard measure should be imposed, the type of measure to be applied, and its period of application. The President will therefore take up the issue after receipt of the USITC report.

9. Information relating to the extension of a safeguard measure

Not applicable.
