ADC NO 62/2022/NTC/VPF Government of Pakistan National Tariff Commission

Notice of Preliminary Determination on Dumped Imports of Vinyl/PVC Flooring into Pakistan Originating in and/or Exported from the People's Republic of China and Imposition of Provisional Anti-dumping Duty

The National Tariff Commission (the "Commission") initiated an antidumping investigation on May 27, 2022 under Section 23 of the Anti-Dumping Duties Act, 2015 (the "Act") concerning dumping of the Vinyl/PVC Flooring, cut to length in form of planks and tiles of a thickness ranging from 1 mm to 5 mm ("PVC flooring") into Pakistan originating in and/or exported from the People's Republic of China ("China") and material injury caused by such dumped imports to the domestic industry manufacturing PVC flooring. The application for this investigation was lodged by M/s Asia Vinyl and Rubber Industries, Lahore (the "Applicant"). The Applicant is producer of PVC flooring. The Commission after investigation in accordance with provisions of the Act and the Anti-Dumping Duties Rules, 2001 (the "Rules") has determined the following on a preliminary basis:

Investigated Product:

The investigated product is Vinyl/PVC flooring, cut to length in form of planks and tiles of a thickness ranging from 1 mm to 5 mm. The investigated product is classified under Pakistan Customs Tariff ("PCT") code No. 3918.1000. The Investigated product is generally used in flooring in residential, commercial, retail, healthcare and offices etc.

Period of Investigation ("POI"):

For investigation of dumping: From January 01, 2021 to December 31, 2021 From January 01, 2019 to December 31, 2021

Determination of Dumping: The Commission has not received any information from any of the exporter/ foreign producer from China in this investigation. Preliminary dumping of the investigated product is, therefore, determined on the basis of best information available in terms of Section 32 of the Act.

Injury to the Domestic Industry: The Commission in accordance with the part VI of the Act has preliminarily determined that the domestic industry suffered material injury on account of significant increase in: volume of dumped imports, price undercutting, price suppression, decline in: market share, capacity utilization, profits, profitability, and negative effects on: production, sales, return on investment, productivity, salaries and wages, growth and investment, inventories. Further, there was a causal link between dumped imports of the investigated product and material injury to the domestic industry during the POI.

Imposition of Provisional Anti-dumping Duty: In reaching affirmative preliminary determination, the Commission is satisfied that the investigated product has been imported at dumped prices. Therefore, imposition of provisional antidumping duty on dumped imports of the investigated product is needed in accordance with Section 43 of the Act to prevent injury being caused to the domestic industry during the course of this investigation. Thus, provisional antidumping duty @ 36.61 percent ad valorem on dumped imports of the investigated product importable from China are hereby imposed for a period of four months effective from 29 October 2022. However, in accordance with Section 51(e) of the Act, provisional antidumping duty will not be levied on imports of the investigated product that are used as inputs in products destined solely for exports and are covered under any scheme exempting customs duty for exports under the Customs Act, 1969. The investigated product is classified under PCT code Nos. 3918.1000.

Hearing: Any party registered as an interested party in this case may, if it so wishes, request a hearing in accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules within 30 days of the publication of this notice

by contacting the Secretary, National Tariff Commission, State Life Building No.5, Blue Area, Islamabad. Telephone No. +92-51-9202839, Fax No.+92-519221205.

Final Determination: In terms of Section 39 of the Act, the Commission is required to make final determination within 180 days of publication of the notice of Preliminary Determination.

Further Information: A non-confidential version of the detailed report of preliminary determination is issued in accordance with Rule 10 of the Rules and is placed on the public file established and maintained by the Commission. The same is also posted on the Commission website www.ntc.gov.pk.

Authority under Law: This notice is published pursuant to Section 37 of the Act by order of the Commission.

-sd-(Ali Muhammad Shah) Secretary, NTC October 29, 2022