WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

G/SG/N/6/ISR/2 12 January 2011

(11-0216)

Committee on Safeguards

Original: English

NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS ON INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION AND THE REASONS FOR IT

ISRAEL

(Glass wool and rock wool)

The following communication, dated 11 January 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Israel.

1. Specify the date when the investigation was initiated

11 January 2011.

2. Specify the product subject to the investigation

Glass wool and rock wool.

The product concerned is currently classified within the **Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System** (HS) nomenclature codes 70.19.3919 and 68.06.1000/3.

3. Provide the reasons for the initiation of investigation

(a) Application Submitted by Domestic Industry

On 28 November 2010, S. Cohen Metal Industries Ltd. has submitted an application to carry out a safeguard investigation on grounds that trends in imports of the product concerned appear to call for safeguard measures.

(b) Prima Facie Evidence of Increased Imports and Injury

The applicants have submitted the evidence available to them. The information currently available to the Commissioner includes data in relation to certain economic indicators specified in Article 3.3 of the Israeli Trade Levies and Safeguards Measures Law, 1991 (the "Law") and Articles 2 and 4 of the WTO's Agreement on Safeguards

The information currently available to the Commissioner indicates that the product concerned is being imported into Israel in such increased quantities, absolute or relative to domestic production, and under such conditions as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic industry that produces like or directly competitive products.

(c) Decision to Initiate Investigation

On 11 January 2011, I have decided, according to section 3.4(a) of the Law, to initiate a safeguard investigation, to determine whether the necessary conditions exist for the adoption of definitive safeguard measures in relation to the product concerned.

4. Further information

(a) Procedure

The investigation will be held according to Chapter B2 of the Law, and in accordance with WTO's Agreement on Safeguard.

(b) Gathering of Information

Questionnaires: In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commissioner will send questionnaires to the known importers of the product concerned, along with the notification of initiation of the investigation that will be send also to known exporters/producers.

Interested parties who have not received a questionnaire may contact the Commissioner and request one no later than 27 January 2011.

<u>Invitation to Respond</u>: All interested parties are hereby invited to make their views known, submit information and to provide supporting evidence, no later than 10 February 2011.

<u>Hearings</u>: Interested parties, whom submitted a written response or an answered questionnaire, may also apply to be heard by the Commissioner.

<u>Verification</u>: It should be noted that any information submitted will be taken into account only if supported by actual evidence at the time of submission and may be subject to verification.

(c) Submissions

Submissions and communications shall be made to: Commissioner of Trade Levies Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor No. 5 Bank Israel Street P.O.Box 3166 Jerusalem 91036

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Reuben Pessah Commissioner
