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**Council for Trade in Goods
Committee on Safeguards**

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**IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.5 OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS
TO THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS OF PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF CONCESSIONS
AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE 8 OF THE
AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Supplement

The following communication, dated and received on 28 September 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the Republic of Korea.

Pursuant to Article 12.5 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and in accordance with the agreed format for notifications (G/SG/1, 1 July 1996; amended on 19 October 2009, G/SG/1/Rev.1 - G/SG/N/6/Rev.1 - G/SG/89) the Republic of Korea provides the immediate notification to the Council for Trade in Goods of the proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 8.

1. Which Member is proposing suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in article 8.2

The Republic of Korea.

2. Specify the measure, the product subject to the measure, the WTO document that notified the safeguard measure, and the Member imposing the measure in relation to which the Member is proposing suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards

The measures at issue are the safeguard measures applicable in the territory of the United Kingdom on certain steel products. On 1 February 2019, definitive safeguard measures on imports of certain steel products were imposed in the territory of the United Kingdom by virtue of Regulation (EU) 2019/159. Those measures replaced the provisional safeguard measures in place since 18 July 2018 and consisted of 26 tariff-rate quotas imposed on 26 steel product categories with an out-of-quota duty of 25%.

On 31 January 2020, the United Kingdom formally withdrew from the European Union but remained part of the European Union's single market and Customs Union until 31 December 2020. The definitive safeguard measures remained in place *ipso facto* in the United Kingdom until that date.

On 30 September 2020, the United Kingdom issued a notice of determination (2020/06) specifying that the United Kingdom would continue to apply the definitive safeguard measures to imports into the United Kingdom of 19 of the 26 steel product categories from 1 January 2021. On 1 October 2020, the United Kingdom published a notice of initiation of a transition review (No. TF0006) for these 19 product categories. Following this transition review, on 30 June 2021, the United Kingdom extended the definitive safeguard measures for 11 product categories for a period of 3 years, effective from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024, and for 5 product categories for a period of

1 year, effective from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 through Public Notice 2021 No. 1 and Public Notice 2021 No. 2, respectively.

On 7 September 2021, the United Kingdom's Trade Remedies Authority initiated a reconsideration of its recommendation to the Secretary of State for International Trade in the transition review of the safeguard on certain steel products (No. TF0006).

The United Kingdom notified the extension of the definitive safeguard measures to the WTO in document G/SG/N/8/GBR/1/Suppl.3 - G/SG/N/10/GBR/1/Suppl.1 - G/SG/N/11/GBR/1/Suppl.1, dated 1 July 2021. The United Kingdom notified the initiation of a reconsideration of the Trade Remedies Authority to the Secretary of State for International Trade to the WTO in document G/SG/N/6/GBR/1/Suppl.1 - G/SG/N/8/GBR/1/Suppl.4 - G/SG/N/10/GBR/1/Suppl.2 - G/SG/N/11/GBR/1/Suppl.2, dated 9 September 2021.

3. Describe the proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and the proposed date from which it will come into effect

On 2 April 2019, the Republic of Korea submitted a notification (G/L/1306 - G/SG/N/12/KOR/4) of proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 8 of the Agreement on Safeguards. Pursuant to this notification, the Republic of Korea reserved its right to apply the proposed suspension from 19 July 2021 in case the period of application of the definitive safeguard measures was extended in accordance with Article 7 of the Agreement on Safeguards.

Taking into account that the safeguard measures at issue have applied to imports into the United Kingdom for more than 3 years and the United Kingdom's recent decision to extend these measures, the Republic of Korea hereby notifies the Council for Trade in Goods of its decision to suspend concessions or other obligations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) that are substantially equivalent to the amount of trade affected by the measures in accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement on Safeguards.

The suspension of substantially equivalent level of concessions or other obligations under GATT 1994 to the trade of the United Kingdom will take the form of an increase in duties on selected products originating in the United Kingdom. The details of the suspension of concessions or other obligations will be provided to the Council for Trade in Goods before its application as the level of the suspension of concessions or other obligations may vary as a consequence of any amendment to the safeguard measures resulting from the Trade Remedies Authority's reconsideration of its recommendation to the Secretary of State for International Trade.

The suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations will continue to apply until the United Kingdom's safeguard measures are lifted.

The Republic of Korea also reserves the right to withdraw, modify, supplement or replace this notification, and/or make a further notification or notifications, should it deem appropriate, including in light of any subsequent developments.
