



26 May 2023

Original: English

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

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

The following communication, dated and received on 25 May 2023, 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.

Which Member is proposing suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2.?

The Republic of Korea.

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.

On 3 April 2023, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade of India published Notification No. 64/2015-2020, dated 31 March 2023, whereby India applied a definitive safeguard measure on imports of Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) effective from 1 April 2023, in the form of quantitative restrictions.

India notified the recommendation to impose a safeguard measure to the WTO in document G/SG/N/8/IND/33-G/SG/N/10/IND/24-G/SG/N/11/IND/19 dated 7 February 2022 and the imposition of the definitive safeguard measure to the WTO in document G/SG/N/8/IND/33/Suppl.1-G/SG/N/10/IND/24/Suppl.1-G/SG/N/11/IND/19/Suppl.1 dated 5 April 2023.

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

The Republic of Korea hereby reserves its right to suspend the application of substantially equivalent concessions or other obligations under GATT 1994 to the trade of India pursuant to Article 8 of the Agreement on Safeguards. Korea considers that various aspects of the safeguard measure are inconsistent with India's obligations under Article XIX of the GATT 1994 and the Agreement on Safeguards.

The proposed suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations under the GATT 1994 will take the form of an increase in duty on selected products originating in India. The details of the suspension of concessions or other obligations will be provided to the Council for Trade in Goods before its application.

The proposed suspension will come into effect within the timeframes foreseen in Article 8 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and it will continue to apply until India's safeguard measure is lifted, or until an agreement on any adequate means of trade compensation, pursuant to Article 8.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, for the adverse effects.

The Republic of Korea reserves the rights 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.