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Committee on Safeguards

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**NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 9, FOOTNOTE 2
OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

VIET NAM

(Alloy and non-alloy steel)

The following communication, dated 13 December 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Viet Nam.

This notification is made pursuant under Article 9, footnote 2 of the Agreement on Safeguards (under the format established in document G/SG/1/Rev.1 – G/SG/N/6/Rev.1 – G/SG/89 dated 5 November 2009).

On 20 November 2019, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued Decision No 3463/QD-BCT on the amendment, supplementation of Decision No 4086/QD-BCT dated 30 October 2018 of the Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (in effect on 20 November 2019) on the mid-term review of the application of the safeguard measure against certain semi-finished and finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel with regards to the change of the list of developing countries exempted from the safeguard measure.

1. Specify the measure

Tariff on imports of certain semi-finished and finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel.

Further details regarding the measure are set out in the notifications on definitive measures: G/SG/N/8/VNM/3 – G/SG/N/10/VNM/2 – G/SG/N/11/VNM/4 dated 2 August 2016 and notification of the results of a mid-term review of the measure (G/L/1287 – G/SG/N/13/VNM/3 dated 4 December 2018).

2. Specify the product subject to the measure

Certain semi-finished and finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel imported into Viet Nam.

3. Specify the developing countries to which the measure is not applied under Article 9.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and the import shares of these countries individually and collectively

As per Appendix on List of countries excluded from the investigation in documents G/SG/N/8/VNM/3 – G/SG/N/10/VNM/2 – G/SG/N/11/VNM/4 dated 2 August 2016.

4. Subsequently, if there is a change in the list of developing countries exempted from the safeguard measure pursuant to Article 9.1, please notify:

- (i) the reference to the WTO document that notified the Members about the initial action under footnote 2 to Article 9.1:**

G/SG/N/8/VNM/3 – G/SG/N/10/VNM/2 – G/SG/N/11/VNM/4 dated 2 August 2016

- (ii) if applicable, names of the countries which are dropped from the list of developing countries to which the safeguard measure does not apply pursuant to Article 9.1, the list of the countries remaining on the list, the individual and collective import shares of the developing countries remaining on the list, and the date on which the safeguard measure applies to the countries dropped from the list;**

- For semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel products: Malaysia and Kazakhstan are dropped from the list of developing countries to which the safeguard measure does not apply pursuant to Article 9.1. According to the imports data from the Customs of Viet Nam, in 2018, Malaysia accounts for 7.26%, Kazakhstan accounts for 55.57% of the imports of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel products into Viet Nam.

The date on which the safeguard measure applies to the countries dropped from the list is 13 June 2019 (the effective date).

- For bars & rods of iron or non-alloy steel: Malaysia is dropped from the list of developing countries to which the safeguard measure does not apply pursuant to Article 9.1. According to the imports data from the Customs of Viet Nam, from the first quarter to the third quarter of 2019, bars & rods of iron or non-alloy steel imports from Malaysia increased sharply to over 35 thousand tons, accounting for 20.38% of total its imports.

The date on which the safeguard measure applies to the countries dropped from the list is 20 November 2019 (the effective date).
