

24 September 2021

(21-7137)

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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**

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(B) OF THE AGREEMENT ON
SAFEGUARDS ON FINDING A SERIOUS INJURY OR THREAT
THEREOF CAUSED BY INCREASED IMPORTS**

PHILIPPINES

High-Density Polyethylene and Linear Low-Density Polyethylene pellets and granules

The following notification, dated and received on 23 September 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the Philippines.¹

Further to G/SG/N/6/PHL/19 and pursuant to Article 12.1 (b) and Article 12.1 (a) of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the WTO hereby notifies the Committee on Safeguards of its preliminary determinations findings, and its initiation of a Formal Investigation to determine whether there is a need to impose a definitive safeguard measure on the importation of High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) pellets and granules from various countries.

1 DATE OF INITIATION OF THE INVESTIGATION

The Department Administrative Order by the Secretary of Trade and Industry dated 17 September 2021 reporting the preliminary determination findings and endorsing the initiation of Formal Investigation was published on 22 September 2021.

2 PRODUCT SUBJECT TO THE INVESTIGATION

HDPE pellets and granules classified under ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Code 3901.20.00 and LLDPE pellets and granules classified under AHTN Codes 3901.10.12, 3901.10.92, 3901.40.00 and 3901.90.90.

3 REASONS FOR INITIATION OF INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE

The formal investigation will be initiated as endorsed by the Department of Trade and Industry, and on the basis of the petition submitted by the petrochemical industry represented by JG Summit Petrochemical Corporation (JGSPC) that increased imports of High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) pellets and granules cause serious injury to the domestic industry in terms of declining domestic sales, production, utilization rate, reduction in labor productivity, incurred losses, suppression, depression and increase inventory.

The formal investigation has been initiated to determine whether definitive safeguard measures are warranted.

¹ A copy of the Department Administrative Order has been submitted electronically. To consult this document, please contact Ms Richards (anne.richards@wto.org) of the Rules Division.