

## Trade Watch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

April 26, 2021

Given below are some key news updates from the past week pertaining to international trade and customs both from India and around the world.

## **World Trade Organization (WTO)**

• <u>European Union (EU) and Colombia in Colombia — Frozen Fries (DS591) have agreed to resort to DSU Article 25 arbitration under the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA). EU and Colombia have further agreed to share the final panel report with MPIA arbitrators as of suspension of request without waiting until notice of appeal.</u>

This modified process gives the MPIA arbitrators up to 20 extra days to prepare for the possible appeal.

- WTO members at a meeting of the Sub-Committee on Least-Developed Countries' (LDCs) noted that the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on trade was worse for LDCs than for the world as a whole.
- At a meeting on e-commerce negotiations, WTO members participating in the talks announced that a "clean" negotiating text on the issue of e-signatures and authentication has been finalized.
- WTO Director-General and the fisheries subsidies negotiations chair, Ambassador Santiago Wills of Colombia, urged WTO
  members to pave the way for a ministerial meeting in July to deliver an agreement that will curb harmful state support for
  fishing.
- WTO members participating in the negotiations on services domestic regulation shared how they have implemented disciplines at the national level.
- <u>Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala urged heads of WTO delegations to stay engaged in the fisheries subsidies</u> negotiations and aim to reach an agreement by July.

## **United States and Europe**

- <u>United States Department of Commerce (USDOC) rescinded administrative reviews of the antidumping duty and</u> countervailing duty orders on polyester textured yarn from India based on the timely withdrawal of the requests for review.
- United States International Trade Commission (USITC) determined that an industry in the United States is materially injured
  by reason of imports of common alloy aluminum sheet from Bahrain, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia,
  Italy, Oman, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, and Turkey that have been found by the USDOC to be
  sold in the United States at less than fair value and to be subsidized by the governments of Bahrain, India, and Turkey.
- United Kingdom (UK) and Serbia are to strengthen business ties by signing a Partnership, Trade and Cooperation Agreement.
- Joint Statement on UK-Australia trade talks.
- UK-Cameroon Economic Partnership Agreement has been published.
- <u>UK-Ghana Interim Trade Partnership Agreement has been published.</u>

## <u>India</u>

- <u>Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) issued Final Findings in Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of</u>
   <u>Plain Medium Density Fiberboard having thickness less than 6 mm originating in or exported from Vietnam, Malaysia,</u>
   Thailand and Indonesia.
- DGTR issued Final Findings in Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of "Copper & Copper Alloy Flat Rolled Products" originating in and exported from China PR, Korea RP, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) exempted customs duty on import of Remdesivir injection, Remdesivir API and Beta Cyclodextrin (SBEBCD) used in the manufacture of Remdesivir, up to October 31, 2021.

- CBIC amended notification No. 50/2018-Customs (ADD) dated October 5, 2018 imposing anti-dumping duty on imports of nylon filament yarn originated in or exported from Vietnam and European Union, to exclude goods of certain specification from the scope of the anti-dumping duty.
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (MoCF) has amended certain quality control orders and notified the data on which these order come into force as follows:
  - o Methanol (Quality Control) Order, 2019 shall come into force on February 3, 2022.
  - o Pyridine (Quality Control) Order, 2020 shall come into force on the March 13, 2022.
  - o Potassium Carbonate (Quality Control) Order, 2020 shall come into force on the March 13, 2022.
  - o Sodium Tripolyphosphate (Quality Control) Order, 2020 shall come into force on the March 13, 2022.
  - o Gamma Picoline (Quality Control) Order, 2020 shall come into force on March 13, 2022.
  - o Hydrogen Peroxide (Quality Control) Order, 2020 shall come into force on March 13, 2022.
  - o Aniline (Quality Control) Order, 2019 shall come into force on February 3, 2022.
  - o Acetic Acid (Quality Control) Order, 2019 shall come into force on February 3, 2022.
- MoCF notified the Linear Alkyl Benzene (Quality Control) Order, 2021.
- India notified mandatory import standards to the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade for the following products:
  - o p-Xylene (Quality Control) Order, 2021
  - o Vinyl Chloride Monomer (Quality Control) Order, 2021
  - o Polyurethanes (Quality Control) Order, 2021
  - o Polycarbonate (Quality Control) Order, 2021
  - o Ethylene Dichloride (Quality Control) Order, 2021
  - o Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) (Quality Control) Order, 2021

We trust you find this useful. In the meantime, should you require any information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at insights@elp-in.com.

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