

Non-Official Translation

**The Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Trade and Industry
Trade Agreements Sector
International Trade Policies Department
Anti-Dumping, Subsidy and Safeguard Department
Notice No. (7) of 2008
on
the Imposition of a Definitive Safeguard Measure on Imports of
Blankets Manufactured from Synthetic Fibers**

Pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 161 of 1998 Concerning the Protection of the National Economy from Injurious Effects of Unfair Practices in International Trade and its Executive Regulation issued by virtue of Ministerial Decree No. 549 of 1998 (hereinafter referred to as the Regulation),

And in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of the Regulation, the Minister of Trade and Industry issued Ministerial Decree No. 721 on 26/08/2008, published in the Egyptian *Official Gazette* issue No. (199) (supplementary) on 27/8/2008, concerning the imposition of a definitive safeguard measure on imports of blankets manufactured from synthetic fibers.

1- Procedures:

On 2/12/2007, the Investigating Authority (hereinafter referred to as the 'IA') received a properly documented application from Misr-Spain Co. for Blankets and Textiles alleging that there had been a sudden increase in imports of blankets manufactured from synthetic fibres causing serious injury to the domestic industry. The application was supported by both El Nasr Co. for Wools and Super Textiles (Stia) and the International Co. for Blankets and Textiles (Saratoga).

On 7/2/2008, the IA's conclusions were submitted to the Advisory Committee, which provided its recommendations to the Minister of Trade and Industry to initiate an investigation, impose of a provisional safeguard duty of 22 EGP per kilogram for a period of 200 days and publish an investigation initiation notice. The Minister approved the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, in accordance with Article 10 of the Regulation. On 12/2/2008, the notice of initiation of the investigation and Ministerial Decree No. 144 providing for the imposition of a provisional safeguard measures were published in the Egyptian Official Gazette issue No. 35 (supplementary).

On 12/2/2008, the WTO (World Trade Organisation) Committee on Safeguards was notified of the initiation of the investigation and of the imposition of a provisional safeguard measures.

On 21/2/2008, the IA received a letter from the government of Hong Kong making itself known to the IA and requesting a copy of the notice of the initiation of the investigation and a copy of the foreign producers' questionnaire.

On 24/2/2008, the IA sent the domestic producers' questionnaire and the notice of initiation to all known domestic producers. They were granted a period of 37 days from the date of receipt of the questionnaires to respond them.

On 3/3/2008, upon request, a foreign producers' questionnaire was sent to the government of Hong Kong. The IA did not receive any submission from the Hong Kong government.

On 6/3/2008, the IA received a letter from Kamara Co. for Blankets' Industry. The company made itself known to the IA and requested copies of the Official Gazette notice of the initiation of the investigation and of the domestic producers' questionnaire.

On 9/3/2008, a copy of the domestic industry questionnaire and of the notice of initiation were sent to Kamara Co., which was given a period of 37 days from the date of receipt to respond to the questionnaire.

On 9/3/2008, the IA received a letter from the government of Jordan, making itself known to the IA and also requesting copies of the notice of the initiation of the investigation and of the foreign producers' questionnaire.

On 19/3/2008, the foreign producers' questionnaire was sent upon a request submitted by the government of Jordan and was given a deadline ending on 24/4/2008. The IA did not receive any response from the Jordanian government.

On 26/3/2008, the IA received a response to the questionnaire from Misr-Spain Co. for Blankets and Textiles.

The IA received letters from Saratoga, Stia and Kamara companies requesting an extension to the time limits specified to respond to the domestic producers' questionnaire. The IA approved the requested extension and received the responses from these companies within the specified time limits.

On 22/6/2008, the IA received a request from the Jordanian Industries' Chamber to have access to the public file.

On 25/6/2008, the IA notified the Jordanian Industries' Chamber that since it had not made itself known as an interested party within the specified time limit, i.e., by 13/3/2008, and the public file is only available to interested parties it could not accept its request.

On 17/7/2008, upon a request from the IA, the Egyptian Industries' Federation sent a letter including the names of the producing companies of the product under investigation, the production of each company and its percentage to the total domestic production volume in Egypt for 2007.

2- Domestic Industry:

The domestic industry is represented by Misr-Spain Co. for Blankets and Textiles, Stia Co., Saratoga Co. and Kamara Co., whose combined production represents 57 percent of the total domestic production. These producers' production was found to be a major proportion of the domestic production and hence, they were considered to represent the domestic industry in accordance with Article 1 of the Regulation.

3- Product Concerned:

The product concerned is blankets manufactured from synthetic fibres of all sizes and weights. Blankets manufactured of artificial fibres of all sizes and weights. The product The product concerned is classified under HS tariff item numbers: 630190 and 630140.

4- Increase in Imports:

The IA concluded in the investigation that imports increased suddenly and sharply both in absolute term and relative to domestic production.

5- Serious Injury and Causal Link:

The IA concluded in the investigation that the domestic industry has suffered serious injury because of the sudden and sharp increase in imports of the product concerned.

6- Imposition and Duration of Safeguard Duties:

Definitive safeguard duties are hereby imposed on imports of blankets manufactured of synthetic fibres of all sizes and weights as per the following table:

Period	From 12/2/2008 to 11/2/2009	From 12/2/2009 to 11/2/2010	From 12/2/2010 to 11/2/2011
EGP per kg	22	20	18

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