No. 51637 85

GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION NOTICE 2845 OF 2024

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION <u>CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATIONS</u> <u>LIST 07/2024</u>

The International Trade Administration Commission (herein after referred to as ITAC or the Commission) has received the following application concerning the Customs Tariff. Any objection to or comment on this representation should be submitted to the Chief Commissioner, ITAC, Private Bag X753, Pretoria, 0001. Attention is drawn to the fact that the rate of duty mentioned in this application is that requested by the applicant and that the Commission may, depending on its findings, recommend a lower or higher rate of duty.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The submission of confidential information to the Commission in connection with customs tariff applications is governed by section 3 of the Tariff Investigations Regulations, which regulations can be found on ITAC's website at http://www.itac.org.za/documents/R.397.pdf.

These regulations require that if any information is considered to be confidential, then a non-confidential version of the information must be submitted, simultaneously with the confidential version. In submitting a non-confidential version the regulations are strictly applicable and require parties to indicate:

- □ Each instance where confidential information has been omitted and the reasons for confidentiality;
- □ A summary of the confidential information which permits other interested parties a reasonable understanding of the substance of the confidential information; and
- □ In exceptional cases, where information is not susceptible to summary, reasons must be submitted to this effect.

This rule applies to all parties and to all correspondence with and submissions to the Commission, which unless clearly indicated to be confidential, will be made available to other interested parties.

The Commission will disregard any information indicated to be confidential that is not accompanied by a proper non-confidential summary or the aforementioned reasons. If a party considers that any document of another party, on which that party is submitting representations, does not comply with the above rules and that such deficiency affects that party's ability to make meaningful representations, the details of the deficiency and the reasons why that party's rights are so affected must be submitted to the commission in writing forthwith (and at the latest 14 days prior to the date on which that party's submission is due). Failure to do so timeously will seriously hamper the proper administration of the investigation, and such party will not be able to subsequently claim an inability to make meaningful representations on the basis of the failure of such other party to meet the requirements.

ITAC'S SELF-INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION FOR AN INCREASE IN THE ALTERNATE RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON:

Various footwear products classifiable under Chapter 64 of the Customs and Excise Act, No. 91 of 1964, from 30% or 500c/2u to 30% or 2000c/2u

ENTITY:

The International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC)

77 Meintjies Street Sunnyside Pretoria 0001

Ref: 11/2024 Enquiries: Ms Khosi Mzinjana, Email: kmzinjana@itac.org.za; Mrs Amina Varachia, Email: avarachia@itac.org.za, Ms Dolly Ngobeni, Email: dngobeni@itac.org.za, Ms Tshepiso Morale, Email: tmorale@itac.org.za; Mrs Ayanda Gandi, endou@itac.org.za and Mr Chris Sako, Email: csako@itac.org.za.

REASONS FOR THE SELF-INITIATED INVESTIGATION:

The former Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, requested ITAC to consider investigating an increase of the alternate specific duty on various footwear products from R5.00 per pair to R20.00 per pair (as per 2022 inflation rate) classifiable under Chapter 64 of the Customs and Excise Act. As reason for the request, it was submitted that the current alternate duty was not adjusted for inflation since 1996, and the inflation rate may have eroded the protection offered by the alternate rate of R5.00 per pair.

In light of the former Minister's request, ITAC is self-initiating an investigation for an increase in the alternate rate of customs duty on various footwear products classifiable under Chapter 64 in terms of Section16(1)(d)(ii) of the International Trade Administration Act, No. 71 of 2002, read together with Regulation 17(3) of the Amended Tariff Investigations Regulations.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted to the above ITAC officials within **eight (8) weeks** of the date of this notice.

Note: Comments must be provided in the format of a questionnaire obtainable on ITAC's website at www.itac.org.za, link: Services - Tariff investigations - Government Gazette Notices - Other publication notices