

## Notice of Initiation of

### **Anti-Circumvention Investigation of Anti-dumping Duties Levied on Dumped Imports of Coated Bleached Paperboard into Pakistan Originating in and/or Exported from China**

The National Tariff Commission (the “Commission”) imposed definitive anti-dumping duties in *ad valorem* terms @ 28.74 percent for individual/cooperating exporters and 29.02 percent for all others, on dumped imports of one-side bleached paperboard imported from China with effect from February 28, 2017 for a period of five years, which were extended for another period of five years with effect from February 28, 2022. The Commission has received an application under Section 63 of the Anti-Dumping Duties Act, 2015, (the “Act”) read with Rules 23 and 25 of the Anti-Dumping Duties Rules, 2022 (the “Rules”) on March 21, 2024 from M/s. Century Paper & Paperboard Mills Limited, Karachi and M/s. Bulleh Shah Packaging Private Limited, Lahore (the “Applicants”), who are manufacturers of coated bleached paperboard. The Applicants have alleged that Chinese exporters are circumventing the anti-dumping duties through product modification, which undermined the remedial effects of the anti-dumping duties in terms of quantities and prices of the domestic like product. Therefore, the domestic industry is not realizing the benefits of imposition of anti-dumping duties and is suffering injury.

#### **Initiation of Investigation**

The Commission has determined that the Chinese exporters are *prima facie*, circumventing anti-dumping duties imposed on dumped imports of one-side coated bleached paperboard through slight modification of the product by applying coating on the other side and declaring it as two-side coated bleached paperboard. Slight modification of the product under investigation (two-side bleached paperboard) *prima facie*, has not altered its essential characteristics and it is used for the same purposes as of the product subject to anti-dumping duties i.e. one-side coated bleached paperboard. *Prima facie*, the circumvention is established through the change in pattern of exports from the country of origin as well as by the exporters/ foreign producers and circumvention of anti-dumping duties through slightly modifying product have undermined the remedial effects of the anti-dumping duty in terms of quantities and prices of the domestic like product. Therefore, the Commission has decided to initiate an anti-circumvention investigation under Section 63(4) of the Act and Rule 26 of the Rules to determine whether circumvention of anti-dumping duties are being done through slight modification of the product, and whether remedial effects of the anti-dumping duty to the domestic industry are being undermined in terms of Section 63 of the Act read with Rules 29 and 30 of the Rules.

#### **Product under Investigation or Slightly Modified Product**

As per the submission of the Applicant the product concerned for the purposes of this anti-circumvention investigation is two–side coated bleached paperboard having clay coating of 20 gsm or above with glossy/ matt finish for better printability on one side and any other coating of less than 20 gsm of any substance such as starch, clay or calcium carbonate etc. on the other side classified under PCT Headings nos. 4810.9200 and 4810.9900.

The product under investigation is mainly used for folding cartons of numerous superior quality consumer and industrial products like cigarettes, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food and spices etc.

## **Period of Investigation**

The period of investigation for this anti-circumvention investigation is January 01, 2017 to December 31, 2023 to determine whether circumvention is undermining the remedial effects of the anti-dumping duties.

## **Schedule for the investigation**

Date of initiation of the anti-circumvention investigation:

The date of publication of this notice in the newspapers in Pakistan.

Duration of investigation:

Within nine months from the date of publication of notice of initiation of the investigation.

## **Interested Parties**

Interested parties, as defined in Section 2(j) of the Act, are requested to identify themselves to the Secretary, National Tariff Commission, State Life Building No. 5, Blue Area, Islamabad, Tel: +9251- 9202839 Fax: +9251-9221205 not later than 15 days after publication of this notice. An interested party applying for registration with the Commission in this anti-circumvention investigation should submit, the name of the company, its line of business, name of authorized person, address, telephone number and fax number. All interested parties are invited to make their views/comments known to the Commission, and to submit information and documents (if any) not later than 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the press in Pakistan. All data and information regarding this investigation should be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission.

## **Hearing**

Any party as defined interested party in Section 2(j) of the Act may, if so wishes, send a written request for a hearing in accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules within 30 days of the publication of this notice to the Secretary of the Commission.

## **Public File**

In accordance with Rule 7 of the Rules, the Commission has established and shall maintain a public file at its office, which shall be available to interested parties for review and copying from Monday to Thursday between 1100 hours to 1300 hours (except public holidays) throughout this investigation.

## **Further Information**

For further information please contact Director General (Investigation-I), Tel: +92-51-9218961, Fax: +92-51- 9221205. General information may also be obtained by accessing the Commission's official [website www.ntc.gov.pk](http://www.ntc.gov.pk).

By order of the Commission.

(Ali Muhammad Shah)  
Secretary, NTC  
May 04, 2024