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Committee on Safeguards

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**NOTIFICATION UPON INITIATION OF A REVIEW PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 7.2
REGARDING THE EXTENSION OF A SAFEGUARD MEASURE**

MOROCCO

Supplement

The following communication, dated and received on 9 May 2025, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Morocco.

Pursuant to Article 7.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards, Morocco hereby notifies the initiation of a review investigation regarding extension of the current safeguard measure on imports of coated wood board.

1. Date of initiation of the investigation

The Ministry of Industry and Trade (hereinafter "the Ministry") has decided to initiate a review investigation on extension of the safeguard measure applied to imports of coated wood board, as from 30 April 2025.

Public notice concerning the initiation of the investigation has been given on the Ministry's website (<https://www.mcinet.gov.ma/fr/avis-et-annonces>) and in two newspapers authorized to publish legal announcements, namely: LE MATIN (Issue No. 18222) and L'OPINION (Issue No. 20412), both published on 30 April 2025.

2. Description of the products involved

The product under consideration and subject to the review investigation is board made from pieces of wood agglomerated with a binding substance, other than oriented strand board (OSB) and waferboard, which is surface-covered with melamine decor paper or decorative laminates of plastic, hereinafter referred to as "coated wood board".

The product under consideration is imported under the following Moroccan Harmonized System customs headings: **4410.11.20.90**, **4410.11.30.90**, **4410.19.92.90** and **4410.19.93.90**.

The review concerns all the products subject to the existing measure.

3. Reference to the WTO document containing the most recent Article 12.1(c) notification

The WTO document containing the most recent Article 12.1(c) notification is document [G/SG/N/10/MAR/6/Suppl.1](#) - [G/SG/N/11/MAR/6/Suppl.1](#), published on 16 August 2022.

4. Reasons for the initiation of the review

The review investigation concerning extension of the safeguard measure applied to imports of coated wood board was initiated by the Ministry following a petition submitted by Cema-Bois de l'Atlas, which constitutes the domestic industry for this product.

The review was initiated for the following reasons:

- The improvement in the situation of the domestic industry during the initial implementation period of the measure (2019-2022) could not be maintained during the period of extension of the safeguard measure (2022-2025). Indeed, the progress made since the imposition of the safeguard measure remains extremely fragile and the domestic industry is still unable to cope with the competitive pressure of imports;
- The domestic industry is finalizing the introduction of adjustments so as to improve its competitiveness; and
- In the absence of safeguard measures, the pressure of imports could increase as a result of the introduction of the safeguard measure on the import of coated wood fibreboard and the increased production capacities of the main foreign producers of wood board, in a context of slowing consumption in the main exporting countries.

5. Deadline(s) for exporters and other interested parties to submit comments in writing

Interested parties have a period of 30 days from the date of initiation of the investigation to make themselves known as such and to comment on the investigation by contacting the Ministry using the fax number or email address provided below.

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