



**IN THE MATTER OF THE PRELIMINARY
DETERMINATION OF THE SAFEGUARD
MEASURES CASE AGAINST THE IMPORTATION
OF NEWSPRINT FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES
(AHTN Codes 4801.0010 & 4801.0090)
(Safeguard Measure Case No. 01-2013)**

**Philippine Newsprint Industry
Petitioner**

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ORDER

The Philippine Newsprint Industry, represented by Trust International Paper Corporation (TIPCO), filed a petition for safeguard measures on the importation of newsprint (classified under AHTN Codes 4801.0010 and 4801.0090) from various countries. The petitioner alleged that newsprint are being imported in increased quantities and that as a result thereof is causing serious injury to the domestic industry.

The period of investigation covered imports from 2007 to August 2013. For injury determination, the Department considered relevant information for the same period.

WHEREFORE, IN VIEW THEREOF, the Department of Trade and Industry, acting under Section 7 of RA 8800, the Safeguard Measures Act and on the basis of the submissions of interested parties and pieces of evidence made available to the Department, the preliminary determination we conducted show that increased imports of newsprint is the probable cause of serious injury to the domestic industry. It is deemed necessary to afford opportunity to the newsprint industry for the conduct of a formal investigation by the Tariff Commission. It must be emphasized that a formal investigation by the Commission is wider in scope as it includes marathon public hearings to give all parties directly affected and such other interested parties the opportunity to be heard and to present evidence including the opportunity to respond to the presentations of other parties and to submit their views.

However, the DTI was not able to establish the existence of critical circumstances, which would warrant the imposition of a provisional safeguard measure while the petition is under formal investigation by the Tariff Commission.

The notification and consultation requirements under Article 12 of the WTO Safeguards Agreement and Section 17 of RA 8800 and its IRR shall be complied with. Imports originating from ASEAN member states shall be governed by the provisions of Articles 11 and 23 of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA).

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The case records will be transmitted to the Tariff Commission for formal investigation to determine whether or not there is a need to impose a definitive safeguard measure.

Let this Order be published in two (2) newspapers of general circulation and let individual notices be sent to all interested parties including the country members concerned.

17 June 2014

SO ORDERED.



GREGORY L. DOMINGO
Secretary