

01 August 2025

H.E. WALLACE MINN-GAN CHOW

Representative

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines
41F, Tower 1, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Avenue,
Makati City 1200

Dear Ambassador Chow:

We are furnishing you copies of the Department of Trade and Industry's Order and Report (non-confidential version) of its preliminary determination that increased imports of corrugating medium is a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic corrugating medium industry.

The Order provides for the imposition of a provisional safeguard duty in the form of a cash bond amounting to Php 3,438.00/MT of imported corrugating medium from various countries classified under AHTN Codes 4805.19.10, 4805.19.90, and 4805.12.00.

The duration of the imposition of the provisional duty is 200 days. The Order shall take effect upon the issuance of the relevant Customs Memorandum Order/Customs Memorandum Circular.

The case records will be forwarded to the Tariff Commission for formal investigation.

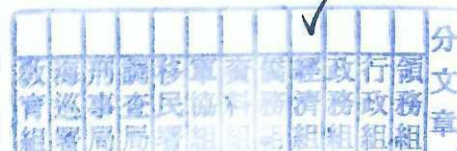
The Non-Confidential Report on the Preliminary Investigation and Department Administrative Order can be accessed at the DTI web page: https://bit.ly/SG_Prelim_CorrugatingMedium.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


MA. CRISTINA ALDEGUER - ROQUE
Secretary


OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



Department Administrative Order No. 25-11
Series of 2025

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PRELIMINARY
DETERMINATION ON THE APPLICATION
FOR SAFEGUARD MEASURES ON
IMPORTATIONS OF CORRUGATING
MEDIUM FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES
(AHTN Codes 4805.19.10, 4805.19.90, and
4805.12.00)**

(Safeguard Measures Case No. SG01-2025)

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ORDER

The Corrugating Medium industry represented by The Pulp and Paper Manufacturers Association of the Phils. (PULPAPEL) and two (2) of its members, United Pulp and Paper Co., Inc. (UPPC) and Bataan 2020 Inc., filed a Petition for safeguard measures on importations of Corrugating Medium under ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Codes 4805.19.10, 4805.19.90, and 4805.12.00, from various countries. The period of investigation (POI) covered imports of corrugating medium from 2019 to 2023 and was updated until 2024.

The Department, acting under Section 7 of RA 8800, the "Safeguard Measures Act", and on the basis of evidence and submissions of interested parties, established after preliminary investigation the existence of a causal link between the increased imports of the products under consideration and serious injury to the domestic industry. The increased volume of imports, both in absolute terms and relative to domestic production, was found to be the substantial cause of the over-all impairment in the operations of the local industry.

Further, pursuant to Section 8 of RA 8800 which provides that, "*in critical circumstances where a delay would cause damage which would be difficult to repair, and pursuant to a preliminary determination that increased imports are the substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic industry*", a provisional safeguard measure in the form of a cash bond amounting to PhP3,438/MT of imported Corrugating Medium, shall be imposed while the case is under formal investigation by the Tariff Commission. The provisional measure shall be imposed for a period of Two Hundred (200) days from the date of issuance by the Bureau of Customs of the relevant Customs Memorandum Order/Customs Memorandum Circular.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Imports originating from developing countries listed in Annex "A" covered by Rule 8.8 of the IRR of RA 8800 shall not be subject to the provisional safeguard measure.

Importers of Corrugating Medium from a country that is exempt from the provisional safeguard duty shall submit a Certificate of Origin (CO) issued by the authorized agency/office in the source country of manufacture, subject to affixation of "Apostille" to the document or authentication by the Philippine Embassy/Consulate General, as applicable.

Moreover, Rule 5.2 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 8800 provides that *"the Secretary when establishing that the application of a safeguard measure will be in the public interest shall take into consideration the following factors; among others: x x x (ii) the extent to which such imposition will cause a shortage of a product under consideration in the domestic market"*.

Accordingly, the DTI has established that the imposition of the provisional safeguard measure shall be in the public interest. With the commitment of the domestic industry to upgrade its facilities, and improve its production efficiency, consumers will have a better and wider range of products to choose from at competitive prices. However, while DTI is mandated to protect consumers, there is a need to balance this with DTI's mandate on other sectors such as the investors and industries which provide employment to Filipinos. There is also a need to moderate imports to balance trade. If local manufacturers can adequately supply domestic requirements, they need to be provided a level playing field to enable them to compete with imports. This will allow the expansion of the industry's manufacturing base and sales which will generate more jobs for Filipinos and allow the continuity of employment for the existing employees of the industry.

Further, users/consumers of Corrugating Medium will retain their option to choose between the local and the imported Corrugating Medium since imports will still be allowed. The imposition of the provisional safeguard measure will only be temporary and is not expected to cause shortage of Corrugating Medium in the domestic market, considering that the local manufacturers of Corrugating Medium have sufficient capacity to meet the domestic demand.

WHEREFORE, IN VIEW THEREOF, the case records will be transmitted to the Tariff Commission for the conduct of a formal investigation to determine whether or not there is a need to impose a definitive safeguard measure.

The non-confidential report of the preliminary safeguard measures investigation can be accessed at the DTI website: [https://bit.ly/SG Prelim CorrugatingMedium](https://bit.ly/SG_Prelim_CorrugatingMedium).

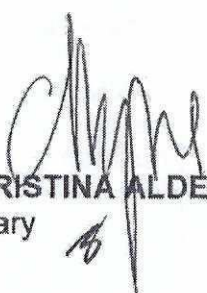
The notification and consultation requirements under Article 12 of the WTO Safeguards Agreement and Section 17 of RA 8800 and its IRR shall be complied with. Imports originating from ASEAN member states shall be governed by the provisions of Articles 11 and 23 of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA). Other imports originating from member states of Free Trade Agreements that the Philippines entered into, such as ACFTA, PJEPA, AJCEPA, AKFTA, AIFTA, AANZFTA, PH-EFTA FTA, AHKFTA, and RCEP, shall follow the notification and/or consultation requirements provided under the said FTAs.

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.

This Order shall take effect upon the issuance of the relevant Customs Memorandum Order/Customs Memorandum Circular by the Bureau of Customs.

SO ORDERED.

01 August 2025


MA. CRISTINA ALDEGUER - ROQUE *egc*
Secretary *AB* *CS*

Annex "A"

**LIST OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORIES
EXCLUDED FROM THE IMPOSITION OF THE PROVISIONAL SAFEGUARD
MEASURE ON IMPORTED CORRUGATING MEDIUM**

East & Southern Africa	West Africa	North Africa	South Asia
Angola	Benin	Algeria	Afghanistan
Botswana	Burkina Faso	Egypt, Arab Rep.	Bangladesh
Burundi	Cameroon	Libya	Bhutan
Comoros	Cape Verde	Morocco	British Indian Ocean
Congo. Dem. Rep.	Central African Rep.	Tunisia	Territory
Djibouti	Chad		Timor-Leste
Eritrea	Congo, Rep.		India
Eswatini	Cote d' Ivoire		Maldives
Ethiopia	Equatorial Guinea		Nepal
Kenya	Gabon		Pakistan
Lesotho	Gambia, The		Sri Lanka
Madagascar	Ghana		
Malawi	Guinea		
Mauritius	Guinea, Bissau		
Mozambique	Liberia		
Namibia	Mali		
Reunion	Mauritania		
Rwanda	Niger		
Seychelles	Nigeria		
Somalia	Sao Tome &		
South Africa	Principe		
Sudan	Senegal		
Tanzania	Sierra Leone		
Uganda	Togo		
Zambia			
Zimbabwe			

Europe & Central Asia	Middle East	Americas	East Asia & Pacific
Albania	Bahrain	Anguilla	American Samoa
Armenia	Iran, Islamic Rep.	Antigua & Barbuda	Brunei Darussalam
Azerbaijan	Iraq	Argentina	Cambodia
Belarus	Jordan	Aruba	Christmas Is.
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Kuwait	Bahamas	Cocos (Keeling) Is.
Bulgaria	Lebanon	Barbados	Cook Is.
Croatia	Oman	Belize	Fiji
Cyprus	Qatar	Bermuda	French Polynesia
Georgia	Saudi Arabia	Bolivia	Guam
Kazakhstan	Syrian Arab Rep.	Brazil	Hong Kong, China
Kyrgyz Republic	United Arab Emirates	British Virgin Is.	Johnston Is.
Macedonia, FYR	West Bank & Gaza	Cayman Is.	Kiribati
Malta	Yemen, Rep.	Colombia	Korea, Dem. Rep.
Moldova		Costa Rica	Lao PDR
Romania		Cuba	Macau, China
Russian Federation		Dominica	Malaysia
Tajikistan		Dominican Rep.	Marshall Islands
Turkiye		Ecuador	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.
Turkmenistan		El Salvador	Midway Is.
Ukraine		Falkland Is. (Malvinas)	Mongolia
Uzbekistan		French Guiana	Myanmar
		Grenada	Nauru
		Guadeloupe	New Caledonia
		Guatemala	Niue
		Guyana	Northern Marianas Is.
		Haiti	Palau
		Honduras	Papua New Guinea
		Jamaica	Pitcairn Is.
		Martinique	Samoa
		Mexico	Singapore
		Montserrat	Solomon Islands
		Netherland Antilles	Chinese Taipei
		Nicaragua	Tokelau
		Norfolk Is.	Thailand
		Panama	Tonga
		Paraguay	Tuvalu
		Peru	Vanuatu
		Puerto Rico	Wake Is.
		St. Helena	Wallis & Futuna Is.
		St. Kitts & Nevis	
		St. Lucia	
		St. Pierre & Miquelon	
		St. Vincent & the Grenadines	
		Suriname	
		Trinidad & Tobago	
		Turks & Caicos Is.	
		Uruguay	
		US Virgin Is.	
		Venezuela	