



12 March 2026

(26-1930)

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Committee on Safeguards

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(B) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS ON  
FINDING A SERIOUS INJURY OR THREAT THEREOF**

**NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 12.1(C)  
OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

EGYPT

*Semi-Finished Products of Iron or Non-Alloy Steel (Billets)*

The following communication, dated and received on 10 March 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Egypt.

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Pursuant to Articles 12.1(b) of the Agreement on Safeguards, the Government of Arab Republic of Egypt submits this notification regarding a finding of serious injury or threat thereof affecting the domestic industry producing "semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel (billets)" hereinafter referred to as "billets" and a notification of proposed safeguard measures.

This notification also contains information relating to the proposed definitive safeguard measure in accordance with Article 12.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards, as well as an offer of consultations pursuant to Article 12.3 of the Agreement.

**Initiation of Investigation**

On 10 September 2025, the Investigating Authority initiated a safeguard investigation concerning imports of the product concerned. The initiation was published in the Official Gazette of Egypt on 11 September 2025.

The initiation of the investigation and the imposition of the provisional safeguard measure were duly notified to the WTO in document [G/SG/N/6/EGY/18](#) - [G/SG/N/7/EGY/14](#) - [G/SG/N/11/EGY/14](#) circulated on 10 September 2025.

**Period of Investigation**

The period of investigation (POI) covered the years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. The Investigating Authority examined developments in imports and the condition of the domestic industry over this period in order to assess the existence of serious injury and the causal link between increased imports and the injury suffered.

**Major Proportion**

The production share of the Applicants (the domestic industry) accounted for 80.7% of the total domestic production of the subject goods in 2024. Therefore, it represents a major proportion as required by Article 4.1(c) of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards.

## Views and Comments of the Interested Parties

In accordance with Article 3.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, the Investigating Authority provided all interested parties with full opportunity to present evidence, views, and comments. A public hearing was held on 9 December 2025. Invitations were sent to all known interested parties on 23 November 2025.

### 1. Provide evidence, citing relevant data and the applicable period of investigation of serious injury or threat thereof caused by increased imports

To determine the existence of serious injury or threat of serious injury caused by increased imports within the meaning of Article 4.1(a) of the Agreement on Safeguards, the Investigating Authority conducted an objective and quantifiable evaluation of all relevant factors having a bearing on the situation of the domestic industry, including developments in imports, market share, production, capacity utilization, sales, profits, employment, and productivity. The following analyses are based on data provided by the Applicants (the domestic industry), which has been verified by the Investigating Authority.

#### A. Evidence of serious injury or threat of serious injury

The economic indicators related to the subject goods in the safeguard investigation are presented in the table below:

**Table 1. National consumption, volume of imports, and market shares**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Import volume (ton)	127,759	949,805	812,254	1,677,696
Change in import volume	-	643%	(14)%	107%
Change in national market size	-	17%	(18)%	91%
Change in domestic industry share	-	(99)%	191%	(59)%
Change in other domestic producers share	-	(73)%	(30)%	(66)%
Change in import share	-	537%	4%	8%

**Table 2. The applicants' (the domestic industry) indicators of serious injury**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Change in sales volume of the domestic industry	-	(99)%	139%	(22)%
Change in Production	-	4%	0%	(1)%
Change in Utilized capacity	-	1%	(14)%	(3)%
change in profits	-	447%	156%	(56)%
Change in employment	-	3%	1%	4%
Change in productivity per labor	-	0%	(2)%	(3)%

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the performance of the Applicants (the domestic industry) can be seen as follows:

- a. Domestic sales volume declined steadily and significantly during the years 2022 and 2024 by 99 % and 22%, respectively.
- b. The market share of the domestic industry declined steadily and significantly during the years 2022 and 2024 by 99% and 59%, respectively.
- c. Production decreased by 1% in 2024 compared to 2023, considering the continuous nature of steel production.
- d. Utilization capacity declined steadily and significantly during the years 2023 and 2024 by 14% and 3% respectively.
- e. Profits declined sharply in 2024 by 56% compared to 2023.

- f. Employment increased by 3%, 1% and 4% during 2022, 2023 and 2024, respectively.
- g. Productivity per labor declined steadily in the years 2023 and 2024 by 2% and 3% respectively.

In accordance with Article 4.2(b) of the Agreement on Safeguards, the Investigating Authority examined whether factors other than increased imports were causing injury to the domestic industry. The Authority determined that while other factors may have had some impact, the injury suffered by the domestic industry was primarily attributable to the substantial increase in imports. Any injury caused by other factors was not attributed to increased imports.

**2. Provide information on whether there is an absolute increase in imports or an increase in imports relative to domestic production (please see also Article 2.1 for the context)**

- A. Increase in imports in absolute terms

**Table 3. Volume of Imports**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Volume of Imports (ton)	127,759	949,805	812,254	1,677,696
Change (%)	-	643%	(14)%	107%

- B. Relative increase in imports to total domestic production

**Table 4. Volume of imports, national production, and relative to total domestic production**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Imports as % of Domestic Production	-	640%	(9)%	106%

The evidence demonstrates a recent, sudden, sharp, and significant increase in imports, both in absolute terms and relative to domestic production.

**3. Provide the precise description of the product involved**

Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel (billets).

The subject goods are semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel (Billets), classified under HS code 72 07 of the Egyptian Harmonized Customs Tariff.

This HS code is given for information purposes.

**4. If the final measure replaces a provisional measure, or if a final measure is extended, a Member is encouraged to provide a written description of any part of the imported product that will no longer be subject to the measure and the Harmonized System numbers under which it enters at least at a 6-digit level, and at a sub-national level (e.g., 8-digit, 9-digit or 10-digit level) if practicable.**

The definitive safeguard measure will replace the provisional safeguard measure. while the structure of the measure remains the same level of duty and minimum amounts differ from those applied under the provisional measure.

**5. Provide precise description of the proposed measure**

Tariff Increase - *Ad valorem*

The proposed measure takes the form of an *ad valorem* tariff increase combined with a minimum specific duty. The measure is considered necessary and proportionate within the meaning of

Article 5.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, as it is limited to the extent required to prevent and remedy serious injury and to facilitate the adjustment of the domestic industry.

The proposed definitive measure will be applied and will be progressively liberalized as follows:

Period	From 2.4.2026 To 13.9.2026	From 14.9.2026 To 13.9.2027	From 14.9.2027 To 13.9.2028
<i>Ad valorem</i> rate (% of CIF)	13%	12%	11%
Minimum specific duty (EGP/ton)	3412	3120	2860

In accordance with Article 7.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, the period of application of the provisional safeguard measure shall be counted towards the total duration of the definitive safeguard measure.

An annual quantity of 176,770 (one hundred seventy-six thousand, seven hundred and seventy) tones will be excluded from the scope of the measures, applicable to imports from all sources without discrimination. The authority's view this exemption would not compromise the measure's ability to remedy injury.

Pursuant to Article 9.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards, developing country Members whose individual share of imports of the subject goods does not exceed 3%, provided that developing country Members with less than 3 per cent import share collectively account for not more than 9% of total imports, shall be excluded from the application of the safeguard measure.

**6. Provide proposed date of introduction of the measure**

Upon the Ministerial Decree.

**7. Provide expected duration of the measure**

13 September 2028.

**8. For a measure with a duration of more than three years, provide the proposed date for the review (under Article 7.4) to be held not later than the mid-term of the measure, if such a date for the review has already been scheduled.**

N/A.

**9. If the expected duration is over one year, provide expected timetable for progressive liberalization of the measure**

Please refer to section 5.

**10. Provide the deadlines for interested parties to comment or any other procedures relevant to the decision to apply the measures. Provide information regarding procedures for prior consultation with those Members having a substantial interest as exporters of the product concerned**

Pursuant to Articles 12.3 and 12.4 of the Agreement on Safeguards, the Investigating Authority has provided and continues to provide adequate opportunities for consultations with Members having a substantial interest as exporters of the subject goods. Consultations were initiated promptly following the imposition of the provisional safeguard measure and will continue to be made available upon request.

Consultations may be held in person or virtually, upon request.

Members having a substantial interest as exporters of the subject goods shall submit a written request for consultations within seven (7) days from the date of circulation of this notification.

All requests for consultations must be submitted in writing, both in hard copy and in electronic format, and must include the name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the requesting Member.

**Additional information**

**Members are encouraged to attach, in an electronic form, publicly available document(s) containing the relevant decision(s) made by the competent authority.<sup>1</sup> This document may be in the original language of the Member, even when the language is not one of the official languages of the WTO. The document will neither be translated nor circulated to the Committee, but will be made available by the Secretariat to Members requesting it.**

The contact details for correspondence are as follows:

Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade.  
Trade Remedies Sector.  
Attention: Mrs. Yomna Elshabrawy.  
New Capital – Governmental District  
Cairo, Egypt.  
E-mail: <mailto:itpd@tas.gov.eg>

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<sup>1</sup> A copy has been submitted electronically, and is available from the WTO Secretariat. To consult it, please contact Ms Anne Richards of the Rules Division ([anne.richards@wto.org](mailto:anne.richards@wto.org)).