

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of bicycles originating in Taiwan and the People's Republic of China

(91/C 266/07)

The Commission has received a complaint alleging that imports of bicycles originating in Taiwan and the People's Republic of China are being dumped and are thereby causing material injury to a Community industry.

Complaint

The complaint was lodged by the European Bicycle Manufacturers Association on behalf of producers representing a major proportion of Community production of bicycles.

Product

The product allegedly being dumped is bicycles falling within CN code 8712 00.

Allegation of dumping

With regard to Taiwan, the allegation of dumping is based on a comparison of domestic prices of the like product with the corresponding prices charged for export to the Community.

Since the People's Republic of China is a non-market economy country, it is necessary to compare the export prices with prices or costs in an analogue country. For this purpose, the complaint suggests that the comparison should be made with domestic prices of the like product in Taiwan.

On this basis, the estimated dumping margins alleged by the complainant are significant for each of the exporting countries concerned.

Allegation of injury

With regard to injury, the complaint alleges and supplies sufficient evidence that the imports of the allegedly dumped product from the countries concerned taken together have increased from 703 500 units in 1987 to 3 628 000 units in 1990, i.e. by 415 %. This represents a development in market share from 6,8 to 22,8 %.

It is furthermore alleged that the prices at which these imports are sold in the Community significantly undercut the prices of Community producers and have forced the latter to align their prices to the low level of the imports concerned.

The consequent impact of dumping on the Community industry is claimed to be a reduction in utilization of

capacity, price erosion resulting in reduced profits and financial losses, downgrading of investments, losses and a reduction in market share. Further, the complaint states that some companies have declared bankruptcy.

In addition, the complainants claim that there is a threat of material injury due to huge Taiwanese investments in China, it being likely that the increased output will be exported to the Community.

Procedure

Having decided, after consultation, that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of a proceeding, the Commission has commenced an investigation in accordance with Article 7 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2423/88 (*).

Interested parties may make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to the parties known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence. Furthermore, the Commission will hear parties who so request when making their views known, provided they can show that they are likely to be affected by the result of the proceeding.

This notice is published in accordance with Article 7 (1) (a) of the abovementioned Regulation.

Time limit

Any information relating to the matter, any arguments concerning the allegations of dumping and injury resulting therefrom or other relevant arguments and any request for a hearing should be sent in writing to reach the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations (Division I-C-1), 200 rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels (†) no later than 30 days following the date of publication of this notice or, for parties known to be concerned, the date on which the letter accompanying the abovementioned questionnaire was received, whichever date is the later. The receipt of this letter is deemed to occur seven days following the date of its dispatch.

(*) OJ No L 209, 2. 8. 1988, p. 1.

(†) Telex COMEU B 21877, telefax (322) 235 65 05.

Any party which has not received a questionnaire should request such a questionnaire within two weeks of the present publication. All questionnaires so requested (or requested subsequent to that date) should be sent, in completed form, to the above address, no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice.

If the required information and argumentation is not received in adequate form within the time limit specified above, the Community authorities may make preliminary or final findings on the basis of the facts available in accordance with Article 7 (7) (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 2423/88.