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**Council for Trade in Goods
Committee on Safeguards**

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**IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.5 OF THE AGREEMENT
ON SAFEGUARDS TO THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS OF
PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF CONCESSIONS AND OTHER
OBLIGATIONS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 2
OF ARTICLE 8 OF THE AGREEMENT
ON SAFEGUARDS**

TURKEY

The following communication, dated 7 April 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Turkey.

Pursuant to Article 12.5 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and in accordance with the agreed format for notifications (G/SG/1, 1 July 1996; amended 19 October 2009, G/SG/1/Rev.1 - G/SG/N/6/Rev.1 - G/SG/89), Turkey provides the immediate notification to the Council for Trade in Goods of the proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 8.

1. Which Member is proposing suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2?

Turkey.

2. Specify the measure, the product subject to the measure, the WTO document that notified the safeguard measure, and the Member imposing the measure in relation to which the Member is proposing suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards

On 24 January 2020, the United States issued a Presidential Proclamation stating that imports of steel and aluminium derivatives would be subject to safeguard measures in the form of a tariff increase effective from 8 February 2020.

Although the United States explained that these measures were being imposed on grounds of national security, Turkey considers them to be an extension of certain previously imposed safeguard measures on imports of steel and aluminium articles. Turkey recalls that in 2018 it had requested consultations with the United States under Article 12.3 of the Agreement on Safeguards with respect to those safeguard measures.¹

On 2 April 2020, as a major exporter having substantial interest in these products, Turkey requested consultations with the United States pursuant to Article 12.3 of the Agreement on Safeguards, with a view to reviewing the information provided under Article 12.2, exchanging views on the measure, and reaching an understanding on ways to achieve the objective set out in Article 8.1 of the Agreement.² That objective is of course to maintain a substantially equivalent level of concessions and other obligations.

¹ See document G/SG/183, dated 20 April 2018.

² See Document G/SG/234, dated 2 April 2020.

To date, Turkey has not received a response from the United States. Therefore, no agreement could be reached so far with respect to adequate means of trade compensation for the adverse effects of the measure on Turkey's trade.

Turkey remains open to pursuing this consultations process with the United States, so that an agreement can be found. Nevertheless, in the light of the deadlines set out in Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards, Turkey wishes to reserve its rights under all relevant provisions of the Agreement on Safeguards. This includes the right to suspend substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations pursuant to Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards.

3. Describe the proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations referred to in Article 8.2 of the Agreement on Safeguards, and the proposed date from which it will come into effect

Turkey provides this written notification in order to achieve the highest degree of legal certainty so that, in all circumstances, its rights to suspend the application of substantially equivalent concessions or other obligations pursuant to Article 8 of the Agreement on Safeguards are fully protected. Turkey also reserves the right to withdraw, modify, supplement or replace this notification, and/or make a further notification or notifications, should it deem that appropriate, including in light of any subsequent developments.

Without prejudice to the effective exercise of its right to suspend substantially equivalent concessions or other obligations referred to in Article 8.2, Turkey hereby reserves its right to apply these proposed suspension upon the expiration of the 30 days from the day on which the written notice of this suspension is received by the Council for Trade in Goods.

The suspension of concessions and other obligations will continue to apply until the United States' safeguard measures are lifted.
