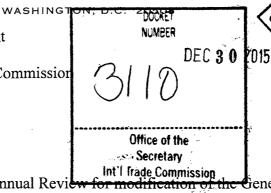
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

The Honorable Meredith Broadbent Chairman United States International Trade Commission 500 E Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Broadbent:



As part of the 2015/2016 Annual Review for modification of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) has recently decided to accept certain product petitions, including petitions for waivers of competitive need limitations (CNLs). Modifications to the GSP program that may result from this review are expected to be announced

on or before June 30, 2016, and to become effective on or before July 1, 2016.

In accordance with sections 503(a)(1)(A), 503(e), and 131(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the 1974 Act"), and pursuant to the authority of the President delegated to the United States Trade Representative (USTR) by sections 4(c) and 8(c) and (d) of Executive Order 11846 of March 31, 1975, as amended, and pursuant to section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, I hereby notify the Commission that the articles identified in Table A of the enclosed Annex are being considered for designation as eligible articles for purposes of the GSP program. Additionally, in accordance with sections 503(a)(1)(B), 503(e), 506A(b)(1), and 131(a) of the 1974 Trade Act, and pursuant to the authority of the President delegated to the USTR by sections 4(c) and 8(c) and (d) of Executive Order 11846 of March 31, 1975, as amended, and pursuant to section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, I hereby notify the Commission that the certain handbags and travel goods products articles identified in Table A of the enclosed Annex are also being considered for designation as eligible articles for countries designated as least-developed beneficiary developing countries (LDBDCs) and for countries listed in section 107 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) (19 U.S.C. 3706).

I therefore request that the Commission provide its advice as to the probable economic effect on total U.S. imports, U.S. industries producing like or directly competitive articles, and on U.S. consumers of the elimination of U.S. import duties on the articles in Table A for all beneficiary developing countries under the GSP program. Additionally, I request that the Commission provide its advice as to the probable economic effect on total U.S. imports, U.S. industries producing like or directly competitive articles, and on U.S. consumers of the elimination of U.S. import duties on certain handbags and travel goods products articles identified in Table A for LDBDCs, AGOA beneficiary developing countries, and both LDBDCs and AGOA beneficiary developing countries combined under the GSP program.

I hereby notify the Commission that certain articles are being considered for removal from eligibility for duty-free treatment under the GSP program from specified countries. Under authority delegated by the President, pursuant to section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, with respect to articles listed in Table B of the enclosed Annex, I request that the Commission provide its advice as to the probable economic effect of the removal from eligibility for duty-free treatment under the GSP program for such articles from the specified country on total U.S. imports, U.S. industries producing like or directly competitive articles, and on U.S. consumers.

Under authority delegated by the President, pursuant to section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, and in accordance with section 503(d)(1)(A) of the 1974 Act, I request that the Commission provide advice on whether any industry in the United States is likely to be adversely affected by a waiver of the CNLs specified in section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act for the countries and articles specified in Table C of the enclosed Annex. Further, in accordance with section 503(c)(2)(E) of the 1974 Act, I request that the Commission provide its advice with respect to whether like or directly competitive products were being produced in the United States on January 1, 1995. I also request that the Commission provide its advice as to the probable economic effect on total U.S. imports, as well as on consumers, of the requested waivers. With respect to the competitive need limit in section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the 1974 Act, the Commission is requested to use the dollar value limit of \$170,000,000.

To the extent possible, I would appreciate it if the probable economic effect advice and statistics (profile of the U.S. industry and market and U.S. import and export data) and any other relevant information or advice is provided separately and individually for each U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule subheading for all products subject to this request.

In accordance with USTR policy on implementing Executive Order 13526, as amended, I direct you to mark or identify as "Confidential," for a period of ten years, such portions of the Commission's report and its working papers that contain the Commission's advice and assessment of probable economic effects on domestic industries producing like or directly competitive articles, on U.S. imports, and on U.S. consumers. Consistent with the Executive Order, this information is being classified on the basis that it concerns economic matters relating to the national security. In addition, USTR considers the Commission's report to be an interagency memorandum that will contain pre-decisional advice and be subject to the deliberative process privilege.

I request that you submit an outline of this report as soon as possible to enable USTR officials to provide you with further guidance on its classification, including the extent to which portions of the report will require classification and for how long. Based on this outline, an appropriate USTR official will provide you with written instructions. All confidential business information contained in the report should also be clearly identified.

I would greatly appreciate if the requested advice, including those portions indicated as "Confidential" be provided to my Office by no later than 120 days from receipt of this letter. Once the Commission's confidential report is provided to my Office, and we review and approve the classification marking, the Commission should issue, as soon as possible thereafter, a public version of the report containing only the unclassified information, with any confidential business information deleted.

The Commission's assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Michael B. G. Froman

## **ANNEX**

Products are listed by Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) subheadings. The product descriptions in this list are for informational purposes only; the definitive tariff nomenclature for the products listed below can be found in the HTS (except in those cases where only part of a subheading is the subject of a petition). The descriptions below are not intended to delimit in any way the scope of the relevant subheadings. The HTS may be viewed at <a href="http://www.usitc.gov/tata/index.htm">http://www.usitc.gov/tata/index.htm</a>. The petitions cited below may be found on <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">www.regulations.gov</a> in Docket 2015-0013.

Table A: 2015/2016 GSP Annual Review-Petitions submitted for products to be considered for addition to the list of GSP-eligible products

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Petitioner(s)	
2204.21.20	Effervescent wine	Government of Bolivia	
3301.13.00	Essential oils of lemon	Government of Bolivia	
7202.11.50	Ferromanganese containing by weight more than 4 percent of carbon	Government of Ukraine	
4202.11.00; 4202.11.00.30; 4202.11.00.90; 4202.12.40; 4202.21.60; 4202.21.5; 4202.22.15; 4202.22.45; 4202.32.40; 4202.32.80; 4202.92.15; 4202.92.20; 4202.92.20; 4202.92.20; 4202.12.20.20; 4202.12.20.50; 4202.12.80.30; 4202.22.80.50; 4202.32.95.50;	Certain handbags and travel goods products	20 petitioners from a wide variety of governments, trade associations, and companies.	
4202.32.95.60; 4202.91.00.30; 4202.91.00.90			

Table B: 2015/2016 GSP Annual Review- Petitions submitted to remove duty-free status from the specified country for a product on the list of eligible articles for the Generalized System of Preferences

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country	Petitioner(s)
3204.20.10	Fluorescent brightening agent 32	India and Indonesia	Archroma
3204.20.80	Other fluorescent brightening agents	India and Indonesia	Archroma
3907.60.00	PET resin (polyethylene terephthalate in primary forms)	India	PET Resin Coalition
3920.62.00	Nonadhesive plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, noncellular, of polyethylene terephthalate	Brazil	DuPont Teijin Films, Mitsubishi Polyester Film, and SKC, Inc.
3921.90.40	Nonadhesive plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, flexible, nesoi, of noncellular plastics	Brazil	DuPont Teijin Films, Mitsubishi Polyester Film, and SKC, Inc.

Table C: 2015/2016 GSP Annual Review- Petitions submitted for waiver of GSP CNLs

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country	Petitioner
0804.10.60	Dates, fresh or dried, whole, without pits, packed in units weighing over 4.6 kg	Tunisia	Government of Tunisia
1509.10.40	Virgin olive oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, not chemically modified, weighing with the immediate container 18 kg or over	Tunisia	Government of Tunisia
2102.20.60	Single-cell micro-organisms, dead, excluding yeasts, (but not including vaccines of heading 3002)	Brazil	Alltech, Inc.
2202.90.90	Nonalcoholic beverages, nesi, not including fruit or vegetable juices of heading 2009	Thailand	Government of Thailand and Sappe Public Co.
2804.29.00	Rare gases, other than argon	Ukraine	Government of Ukraine
4202.92.04	Insulated beverage bag w/outer surface textiles, interior only flexible plastic container storing/dispensing beverage thru flexible tubing	Philippines	Camelbak Product
6911.10.37	Porcelain or china (o/than bone china) household table & kitchenware in sets in which aggregate val. of arts./US note 6(b) o/\$56 n/o \$200	Indonesia	Lenox Corporation
8708.50.95	Parts & accessories of motor vehicle of 8701, nesoi, 8702 and 8704-8705, half-shafts	India	Liners India Limited