

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

Investigation No. 332-497

**ADVICE CONCERNING POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS TO THE U.S. GENERALIZED
SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES, 2007 REVIEW OF COMPETITIVE NEED LIMIT WAIVERS**

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission

ACTION: Institution of investigation and scheduling of hearing

SUMMARY: Following receipt on January 18, 2008, of a request from the United States Trade Representative (USTR) under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332 (g)), the Commission instituted investigation No. 332-497, *Advice Concerning Possible Modifications to the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences, 2007 Review of Competitive Need Limit Waivers*.

DATES:

February 11, 2008: Deadline for filing requests to appear at the public hearing.

February 12, 2008: Deadline for filing pre-hearing briefs and statements.

February 28, 2008: Public hearing.

March 7, 2008: Deadline for filing post-hearing briefs and statements and other written submissions.

April 17, 2008: Transmittal of report to USTR.

ADDRESSES: All Commission offices, including the Commission's hearing rooms, are located in the United States International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC. All written submissions, including requests to appear at the hearing, statements, and briefs, should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information may be obtained from Cynthia B. Foreso, Project Leader, Office of Industries (202-205-3348 or cynthia.foreso@usitc.gov) or Eric Land, Deputy Project Leader, Office of Industries (202-205-3349 or eric.land@usitc.gov). For more information on legal aspects of the investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Commission's Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091 or william.gearhart@usitc.gov). The media should contact Margaret O'Laughlin, Office of External Relations (202-205-1819 or margaret.olaughlin@usitc.gov). Hearing-impaired individuals may obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal at 202-205-1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS-ONLINE) at <http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/edis.htm>. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000.

BACKGROUND: As requested by the USTR, under the 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 Trade Act of 1974 (1974 Act) (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(1)(A)), the Commission will provide advice on whether any industry in the United States is likely to be adversely affected by a waiver of the competitive need limitations specified in section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act for the following countries and articles: Argentina for HTS subheading 4107.91.80; India for HTS subheading 2001.10.00; Indonesia for HTS subheadings 3907.60.00 and 4011.10.10; and Turkey for HTS subheading 7413.00.50. As requested, the

Commission will also provide advice as to the probable economic effect on consumers of the petitioned waivers. As requested by USTR, the Commission will use the dollar value limit of \$130,000,000 for purposes of section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the 1974 Act.

As requested by the USTR, the Commission will provide its advice by April 17, 2008. The USTR indicated that those sections of the Commission's report and related working papers that contain the Commission's advice will be classified as "confidential."

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing in connection with this investigation will be held beginning at 9:30 a.m. on February 28, 2008 at the United States International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC. All persons have the right to appear by counsel or in person, to present information, and to be heard. Persons wishing to appear at the public hearing should file a letter with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E St., SW, Washington, DC 20436, not later than the close of business (5:15 p.m.) on February 11, 2008, in accordance with the requirements in the "Submissions" section below.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements or briefs concerning these investigations. All written submissions, including requests to appear at the hearing, statements, and briefs, should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Pre-hearing briefs and statements should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., February 12, 2008; and post-hearing briefs and statements and all other written submissions should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., March 7, 2008. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the *Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure* (19 C.F.R. 201.8). Section 201.8 of the rules requires that a signed original (or a copy designated as an original) and fourteen (14) copies of each document be filed. In the event that confidential treatment of the document is requested, at least four (4) additional copies must be filed, in which the confidential information must be deleted (see the following paragraph for further information regarding confidential business information). The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means, except to the extent permitted by section 201.8 of the rules (see Handbook for Electronic Filing Procedures, http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/rules/documents/handbook_on_electronic_filing.pdf). Persons with questions regarding electronic filing should contact the Secretary (202-205-2000).

Any submissions that contain confidential business information must also conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the *Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure* (19 C.F.R. 201.6). Section 201.6 of the rules requires that the cover of the document and the individual pages be clearly marked as to whether they are the "confidential" or "nonconfidential" version, and that the confidential business information be clearly identified by means of brackets. All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available in the Office of the Secretary to the Commission for inspection by interested parties.

The Commission may include some or all of the confidential business information submitted in the course of the investigation in the report it sends to the USTR. As requested by the USTR, the Commission will publish a public version of the report, which will exclude portions of the report that the USTR has classified as confidential as well as any confidential business information.

By order of the Commission.

/s/

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: January 29, 2008