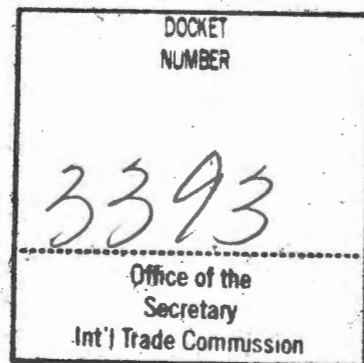


THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON



June 4, 2019

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

Dear Chairman Johanson:

As part of the 2018/2019 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 October 31, 2019 and to become effective on or before November 1, 2019.

I hereby notify the Commission that articles identified in Table A are being considered for removal from eligibility for duty-free treatment under the GSP program from certain countries. Under authority delegated by the President, pursuant to Section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, 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 these articles from the listed GSP countries on total U.S. imports, on U.S. industries producing like or directly competitive articles, and on U.S. consumers.

I hereby notify the Commission that articles identified in Table B are being considered for a waiver of the Competitive Need Limitations (CNLs) specified in Section 503(c)(2)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the 1974 Act"). 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 Competitive Need Limitations (CNLs) specified in Section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act for the countries and articles specified in Table B of the enclosed Annex. 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 Limitation in Section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the 1974 Act, the Commission is requested to use the dollar value limit of \$185 million. Further, pursuant to Section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 and in accordance with Section 503(c)(2)(E) of the 1974 Act, I request that the Commission provide its advice as to whether a like or directly competitive article was produced in the United States in any of the preceding three calendar years.

I hereby notify the Commission that the articles from the designated GSP beneficiary countries identified in Table C of the enclosed Annex are being considered for redesignation as eligible articles from certain beneficiary countries for purposes of the GSP program. Under authority delegated by the President, pursuant to Section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, I therefore request that the Commission provide its advice as to the probable economic effect on total U.S. imports, on 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 C from the listed beneficiary countries. Further, pursuant to Section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 and in accordance with Section 503(c)(2)(E) of the 1974 Act, I request that the Commission provide its advice as to whether a like or directly competitive article was produced in the United States in any of the preceding three calendar years.

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.

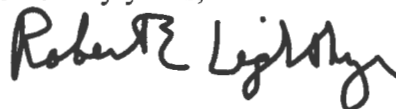
In accordance with USTR policy on implementing Executive Order 13526, as amended, I direct you to mark or identify as "Confidential," for a period of ten years, such portions of the Commission's report and its working papers that contain the Commission's advice and assessment of probable economic effects on domestic industries, 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 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 September 7, 2019. 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 yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Lighthizer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert E. Lighthizer

## 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 <https://hts.usitc.gov/current>. The petitions cited below may be found on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) in Docket USTR-2019-0001.

**Table A: 2018/2019 GSP Annual Review- Petitions submitted to remove duty-free status from the listed countries for a product on the list of eligible articles for the Generalized System of Preferences**

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Petitioner	Country
3907.61.00	Polyethylene terephthalate, having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher	PET Resin Coalition	Pakistan
3907.69.00	Polyethylene terephthalate, having a viscosity number less than 78 ml/g	PET Resin Coalition	Pakistan

**Table B: 2018/2019 GSP Annual Review- Petitions submitted for waiver of GSP CNLs**

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Petitioner	Country
3823.11.00	Stearic acid	American eChem, Government of Indonesia	Indonesia
9001.50.00	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass, unmounted	The Vision Council, Royal Thai Embassy	Thailand

**Table C: 2018/2019 GSP Annual Review- Petitions submitted for re-designation of excluded items from the listed countries**

<b>HTS Subheading</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Petitioner</b>	<b>Country</b>
0603.13.00	Orchids, fresh cut	ECAN RMS, Leis by Ron, Royal Thai Embassy	Thailand
4412.10.05	Plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, of bamboo	Government of Indonesia	Indonesia
4412.31.4155	Plywood sheets n/o 6mm thick, with specified tropical wood outer ply, with face ply nesoi, not surface covered beyond clear/transparent	Recreational Vehicle Industry Association	Indonesia
4418.73.40	Assembled flooring panels of bamboo, other than for mosaic, multilayer, having a face ply more than 6mm in thickness	Government of Indonesia	Indonesia