

24 March 2016

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Committee on Safeguards

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**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.4 OF THE AGREEMENT ON
SAFEGUARDS BEFORE TAKING A PROVISIONAL SAFEGUARD
MEASURE REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 6**

**NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 9, FOOTNOTE 2
OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS**

VIET NAM

(Monosodium glutamate)

The following communication, dated 23 March 2016, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Viet Nam.

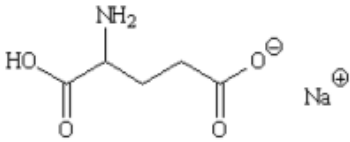
In accordance with Ordinance No. 42/2002/PL-UBTVQH10 dated 25 May 2002 of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly on Safeguards on Imports of Foreign Goods into Vietnam and Decree No. 150/2003/ND-CP dated 8 December 2003 of the Government providing detailed regulations for implementation of Ordinance on safeguards on imports of foreign goods into Vietnam, the Ministry of Industry and Trade notifies the application of safeguard measures on monosodium glutamate under HS code of 2922.4220.

1. Background

On 1 September 2015, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued the Decision No. 9269/QĐ-BCT on the initiation of safeguard investigation on monosodium glutamate (hereinafter referred to as "subject products") imported from various countries.

2. Subject product

Detailed description of the subject products covered by the investigation as follows:

Scientific name	Monosodium L-glutamate, Sodium glutamate INS 621 ADI unlimited
Common name	Monosodium glutamate (MSG), mononatri glutamat, sodium glutamate, natri clorua of acid glutamic
Trade name	Monosodium Glutamate (MSG)
Chemical names	Mononatri L-glutamát monohydrát, monohydrát, Monosodium Glutamate (MSG)
C.A.S. code	6106-04-3
Numerator formula	C5H8NNaO4.H2O
<i>Structure formula</i>	
<i>Numerator weight</i>	187,13

Purposes of use

MSG is a kind of white crystalline substance (salt of axit glutamic) used around the world, as itself of a complex of substance, mainly as a savory enhancer in foods such as meat, fish, soup, some kinds of fruits and drinks, frozen and processed food, and sauces. It is applied a smaller amount of non-food products, such as detergents, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.

HS code

Monosodium glutamate products under HS Code: 2922.42.20.

3. Safeguard measures applied

Ministry of Industry and Trade shall apply safeguard measure in the form of import duty on subject products imported into Vietnam as follows:

Effective period	Safeguard duties
25/3/2016 - 24/3/2017	4,390,999 VND/ton
25/3/2017 - 24/3/2018	3,951,899 VND/ton
25/3/2018 - 24/3/2019	3,556,710 VND/ton
25/3/2019 - 24/3/2020	3,201,039 VND/ton

4. Countries or origin of products under investigation subject to safeguard measure

Safeguard measure is applied to imported products from all countries under investigation, except for countries excluded from the investigation in accordance with the regulation on negligible volume of imports (Article 13 of Decree 150/2003/ND-CP of 8 December 2003 detailing regulations for implementation of Ordinance on safeguards on imports of foreign goods into Vietnam). Please see the list of countries excluded from the investigation in the Appendix below.

5. Effective date of the safeguard measures

Safeguard measures will take effect after 15 days from the date of signing of the Decision of the Minister of Industry and Trade, i.e. 25 March 2016.

6. Basis for application of the safeguard measures

Based on the information provided by interested parties, the Investigating Authority determines as follows:

- The domestic industry is a group of monosodium glutamate companies whose manufacturing monosodium glutamate in Vietnam, that represent more than 50% of total Vietnam production.
- Domestically produced like product consists of monosodium glutamate. These products have the same components of raw materials, specification, production methods, purposes of use with the imported subject products above.
- The volume of subject products imported to Vietnam increased in both relative and absolute terms.
- The domestic industry has suffered serious injury. Specifically, the domestic industry has got losing market share, reduction of productivity, turnover, sales volume, employment, utilization of capacity, increase of inventories in the period of 2011-2014, especially 2014.
- The increase of import of subject products has caused serious injury to the domestic industry.
- The economic crisis in China in recent years and the excess of capacity with the large amount of inventories of monosodium glutamate in China; and the application of trade remedy measures to monosodium glutamate products of some countries are considered as "unforeseen development" and are the reasons for the surge of imports to Vietnam.

7. Further information

Information on the decision to apply safeguard measures on subject products is accessible at the website of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (<http://www.moit.gov.vn>) and Vietnam Competition Authority (<http://www.vca.gov.vn> or <http://www qlct.gov.vn>).

Further information and comments should be sent to:

Trade Remedies Investigation Division
Vietnam Competition Authority - Ministry of Industry and Trade
Address: 25 Ngo Quyen Street, Hoan Kiem District, Hanoi, Vietnam
Phone: (+84 4) 222.05002 (ext: 1035) (Mr. Truong Hung)
Fax: (+84 4) 222.05003
Email: hungnht@moit.gov.vn; ninhtt@moit.gov.vn

APPENDIX

LIST OF COUNTRIES EXCLUDED FROM THE INVESTIGATION

1. Sub-Sahara Africa

Angola	Gambia, The	Rwanda
Benin	Ghana	Sao Tome and Principe
Botswana	Guinea	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Guinea-Bissau	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Kenya	Somalia
Cabo Verde	Lesotho	South Africa
Cameroon	Liberia	South Sudan
Central African Republic	Madagascar	Sudan
Chad	Malawi	Swaziland
Comoros	Mali	Tanzania
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Mauritania	Togo
Congo, Rep.	Mauritius	Uganda
Cote d'Ivoire	Mozambique	Zambia
Eritrea	Namibia	Zimbabwe
Ethiopia	Niger	
Gabon	Nigeria	

2. Asia Pacific

American Samoa	Myanmar
Cambodia	Palau
Fiji	Papua New Guinea
Kiribati	Philippines
Korea, Dem. Rep.	Samoa
Lao PDR	Solomon Islands
Malaysia	Timor-Leste
Marshall Islands	Tonga
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	Tuvalu
Mongolia	Vanuatu

3. Europe and Central Asia

Albania	Macedonia, FYR
Armenia	Moldova
Azerbaijan	Montenegro
Belarus	Romania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Serbia
Bulgaria	Tajikistan
Georgia	Turkey
Kazakhstan	Turkmenistan
Kosovo	Ukraine
Kyrgyz Republic	Uzbekistan

4. Latin America and Caribbean

Belize	Guyana
Bolivia	Haiti
Brazil	Honduras
Colombia	Jamaica
Costa Rica	Mexico
Cuba	Nicaragua
Dominica	Panama
Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Ecuador	Peru
El Salvador	St. Lucia
Grenada	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Guatemala	Suriname

5. Middle East and North Africa

Algeria	Libya
Djibouti	Morocco
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Syrian Arab Republic
Iran, Islamic Rep.	Tunisia
Iraq	West Bank and Gaza
Jordan	Yemen, Rep.
Lebanon	

6. South Asia

Afghanistan	Maldives
Bangladesh	Nepal
Bhutan	Pakistan
India	Sri Lanka