**Pre-Sampling Questionnaire (Exporter)**

**Transition review of countervailing measures**

**Case TS0023: Certain stainless steel bars and rods originating in the Republic of India**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Period of Investigation:** | 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 |
|  |  |
| **Injury Period:** | 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2022 |
|  |  |
| **Deadline for response:** | 6 July 2022 |
|  |  |
| **Case team contact:** | TS0023@traderemedies.gov.uk |
|  |  |
| **Completed on behalf of:** | Venus Wire Industries Private Limited |

When you have completed this form, indicate the **confidentiality** status of this document by placing an X in the relevant box below and in the header. We strongly recommend this questionnaire to be completed on the computer, so this step is easy to complete.

☐ Confidential

☐ Non-Confidential – will be made publicly available

Please note that you will have to provide **two copies of your response** – a **Confidential** and a **Non-Confidential version**. Both copies should be returned to the TRA using the Trade Remedies Service ([www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk](http://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk)) by **6 July 2022**.

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## The scope of this review

### Goods subject to review

This review covers certain stainless steel bars and rods originating in the Republic of India (India), described as:

*Stainless steel bars and rods, not further worked than cold-formed or cold-finished, other than bars and rods of circular cross-section of a diameter of 80 mm or more.*

These goods are currently classifiable within the following commodity codes:

* 72 22 20 21
* 72 22 20 29
* 72 22 20 31
* 72 22 20 39
* 72 22 20 81
* 72 22 20 89

These commodity codes are only given for information.

In this pre-sampling questionnaire, these goods will be referred to as ‘**the goods subject to review**’. Any reference to ‘goods subject to review’ in this pre-sampling questionnaire refers to the goods description above, regardless of the commodity code under which they are exported.

### Like goods

In addition to seeking information about your company’s export sales to the UK of the goods subject to review, this pre-sampling questionnaire will also ask about your sales of like goods in your domestic market and to third countries. Any reference to ‘**like goods**’ in this questionnaire refers to goods which are like the goods subject to review in all respects, or with characteristics closely resembling them.

**Please follow the instructions for each question to provide the appropriate information regarding the goods subject to review or like goods.**

For more information about this case, you may refer to the Notice of Initiation published at: [www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/case/TS0023](http://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/case/TS0023).

## Instructions

### I – Who should complete this form

You should complete this form if you are an overseas exporter of stainless steel bars and rods, not further worked than cold-formed or cold-finished, other than bars and rods of circular cross-section of a diameter of 80 mm or more (‘the goods subject to review’) that are currently classifiable within the commodity codes:

* 72 22 20 21
* 72 22 20 29
* 72 22 20 31
* 72 22 20 39
* 72 22 20 81
* 72 22 20 89

### II – Why you are being asked to complete this pre-sampling questionnaire

We are seeking your cooperation as an **overseas exporter** of the goods subject to review to inform our review of whether the current countervailing measure should be maintained, varied or discontinued. If you are not an overseas exporter, please complete either the relevant pre-sampling questionnaire or the other interested party and contributor registration form.

This pre-sampling questionnaire allows us to collect basic information and data about your company. If a large number of overseas exporters of the goods subject to review from India complete this pre-sampling questionnaire, we will use the information each one provides to help us decide which companies we want to sample for further investigation. If you are sampled, we will send you a more detailed questionnaire to complete.

By submitting a completed detailed questionnaire response, you might become eligible for an individual countervailing amount, if we are recommending that measures are continued following this review. Please refer to [Section C](#_Section_C_–) for more information on individual countervailing amounts.

If you do not complete this pre-sampling questionnaire or the detailed questionnaire, you could be found to be non-cooperating. For more details on how this may affect you, please consult our [operational guidance on non-cooperation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-trade-remedies-investigations-process/an-introduction-to-our-investigations-process#non-cooperation).

### III – Deadline for response

A completed pre-sampling questionnaire must be submitted to the TRA by no later than**6 July 2022**. If you are unable to provide a completed submission by the given due date and you wish to request an extension, please contact Timothy Sharp, at TS0023@traderemedies.gov.uk, and see the [TRA’s guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-trade-remedies-investigations-process/an-introduction-to-our-investigations-process#about-our-questionnaires) on extension requests for further information.

### IV – Note about confidentiality

You will need to submit one confidential version and one non-confidential version of your pre-sampling questionnaire by the due date.

Please ensure that each page of information you provide is clearly marked either “Confidential” or “Non-Confidential” in the header.

It is your responsibility to ensure that the non-confidential version does not contain any confidential information, which includes personal contact information, names and signatures.

Please see the [TRA’s public guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-trade-remedies-investigations-process/an-introduction-to-our-investigations-process#confidential-information-and-non-confidential-summaries) for further information on what can be considered confidential and how to prepare a non-confidential version of this questionnaire.

All information provided to the TRA in confidence will be treated accordingly and only used for this investigation (except in limited circumstance as permitted by regulation 46 of the Trade Remedies (Dumping and Subsidisation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) and will be stored in protected systems.

The non-confidential version of your submission will be placed on the public file, which is available on [www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/case/TS0023](http://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/case/TS0023).

## Section A – Activities of your company and any associated parties

### A1 – Your company’s activities

To determine your company’s role for the purpose of this review, please select the activity/activities of your company below. For a definition of goods subject to review/like goods please refer to above section ‘[the scope of this review](#_The_scope_of)’.

☐ overseas exporter of the goods subject to review

☐ other (please give details below)

If you have selected ‘other’, please describe the role of your company with regards to the goods subject to review or the like goods:

*Please answer here*

Please describe your interest in this review:

To become eligible for an individual countervailing amount. Though Venus on its own did not produce and sold the goods subject to review, its associated parties produced and sold the goods subject to review and the like goods.

### A2 – Associated parties and operational links

Please give details of all associated parties involved in the production and/or sales (export and/or domestic) of the goods subject to review or like goods during the POI. Both natural persons (individuals) and legal persons (e.g. companies) are considered to be associated where they meet the definition of ‘Related Persons’ in [regulation 128 of the *Customs (Import Duty) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018*](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1248/regulation/128/made).

Examples of activities could include manufacturing, exporting, purchasing, warehousing, sales (domestic), sales (export), further processing of the goods subject to review or like goods.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Company name** | **Company location****(city, country)** | **Activities** | **Relationship** |
| Associated Party 1 |  |  | Manufacturer, Export Sales, Domestic Sales of goods subject to review | \_\_\_\_\_\_ is 0-10% partner in the partnership firm \_\_\_\_\_. |
| Associated Party 2 |  |  | Export Sales, Domestic Sales of goods subject to review | 90-100% subsidiary Company of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Associated Party 3 |  |  | Domestic Sales of goods subject to review | 70-80% owned by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and 20-30% by \_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| Associated Party 4 |  |  | Manufacturer, Export Sales, Domestic Sales of goods subject to review | Owned by Related Person |
| Associated Party 5 |  |  | Manufacturer, Export Sales, Domestic Sales of goods subject to review | Owned by Related Person |

+ Add additional rows as required

## Section B – Production and sales volumes

### B1 – Production

Please fill in your company’s total production volume and capacity for the goods subject to review and like goods in the table below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Volume****(kg)** |
| Overall production of the goods subject to review and like goods during the POI | 0.00 |
| Total production capacity of the goods subject to review and like goods during the POI | 0.00 |

**Note:** Though Venus on its own did not produce and sold the goods subject to review, its associated parties produced and sold the goods subject to review and the like goods. Since it is not possible to use indexing or ranges, Venus has redacted the data.

### B2 – Sales volume and value

Please provide the total sales volumes and sales price values in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Volume****(kg)** | **Value****in INR (₹)** |
| Total export sales of the goods subject to review to the UK during the POI **manufactured** by your company | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total export sales of the goods subject to review to the UK during the POI **not** **manufactured** by your company | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total domestic sales of like goodsduring the POI **manufactured** by your company | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total domestic sales of like goods during the POI **not** **manufactured** by your company | 0.00 | 0.00 |

**Note:** Though Venus on its own did not produce and sold the goods subject to review, its associated parties produced and sold the goods subject to review and the like goods. Since it is not possible to use indexing or ranges, Venus has redacted the data.

### B3 – Commodity codes

Please provide details of the commodity code(s) under which you export the goods subject to review to the UK.

Venus Wire didn’t have any export of the goods subject to the review during the Investigation Period. Though Venus on its own did not produce and sold the goods subject to review, its associated parties produced and sold the goods subject to review. Commodity Codes exported by associated parties are as under:

## Section C – Individual countervailing amount

If the TRA decides to sample overseas exporters, and you are **not** selected for this sample, you might become eligible for an individual countervailing amount if you complete a detailed questionnaire. Please indicate whether you would complete this questionnaire below:

☐ - Yes

☐ - No

If you are **not** selected for this sample and you then do **not** choose to complete a detailed questionnaire, you will not be eligible for an individual countervailing amount. Your countervailing amount will be determined based on the amounts imposed on the overseas exporters in the sample.

**Please note**:

If we recommend that a trade remedy measure continues following this review, and you have requested an individual countervailing amount, please note that you will be required to supply the necessary information within the given timeframe for us to calculate this for you.

The TRA must accept an overseas exporter’s request for an individual countervailing amount and calculate an individual amount, providing that:

* the information required is complete and submitted on time; and
* the number of requests for individual calculations does not unduly burden the review and risk delaying its conclusion.

## Section D – Subsidies

The [EU investigation](https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-history?caseId=1619) found that exporters of stainless bars and rods in India have benefited from subsidies granted to them by the Government of India. Please use this section of the questionnaire to provide any information you have on the programmes listed, or on any assistance programmes that you use.

Please note that programme titles listed are to the best of the TRA’s knowledge and may differ from official programme titles used by the Government of India.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Programme title** |
| 1 | Advance Authorisation Scheme (AAS) |
| 2 | Duty Drawback Scheme (DDS) |
| 3 | Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPBS) |
| 4 | Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) |
| 5 | Exemption of Export Credit from Interest Taxes |
| 6 | Export Credit Scheme (ECS) |
| 7 | Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCGS) |
| 8 | Loan Guarantees and direct transfers of funds from the Government of India |
| 9 | Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) |
| 10 | Package Scheme of Incentives (PSI) |
| 11 | Regional Subsidies |

Where possible, please substantiate your answers with evidence, including details of:

* the foreign authority responsible for providing the subsidy;
* conditions of eligibility for receipt of the subsidy;
* all known recipients of the subsidy;
* the amount of the subsidy;
* when the subsidy programme commenced;
* frequency of subsidy (i.e., one-off or re-occurring); and
* the effect of the subsidy on the production and sales of the goods subject to review.

|  |
| --- |
| The following programs are used:Advance Authorisation Scheme (AAS): This subsidy is provided by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). This scheme is operative for more than 20 years. It is available on import of goods under advance authorisation subject to fulfilment of export obligation. The amount of subsidy is equal to custom duty on imports. It is available on recurring basis.  Duty Drawback Scheme (DDS): This scheme is administered by the Department of Revenue. The scheme is in operation since year 2011. It is available on export of goods. The subsidy available is 1.60% of FOB value. It is available on recurring basis.Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCGS): This subsidy is provided by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). This scheme is operative for more than 20 years. It is available on import of capital goods under the scheme subject to fulfilment of export obligation. The amount of subsidy is equal to custom duty on capital goods. It is available on recurring basis. Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS): This subsidy is provided by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). The scheme is in operation since year 2015. It is available on export of goods. The subsidy available is 2.00% of FOB value. It is available on recurring basis. |

If you are aware of any assistance programmes not previously addressed, that you benefited from during the period of investigation and/or during the injury period, please identify those programmes below.

|  |
| --- |
| None. |

## Section E – Additional information

### E1 – Other interested parties

If you believe there are other interested parties that should receive a questionnaire, please provide their organisation name and website details below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation name** | **Website** |
|  |  |
| None |
|  |  |
|  |  |

### E2 – Particular Market Situation

If you have any concerns or information about the possible existence of a particular market situation in the exporting country or territory, please provide details in the box below. This can include examples such as:

* Prices are artificially low;
* There is significant barter trade (e.g. goods exchanged for other goods);
* Prices reflect non-commercial factors; or
* Anything else.

No such market situation existed.

### E3 – Scope

Do you agree with the scope of the investigation as outlined on page 3?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you have answered no to the above question, please explain.

Click or tap here to enter text.

### E4 – Product Control Numbers

The TRA uses Product Control Numbers (PCNs) to define and distinguish the different types of products that fall under the goods description above.

PCNs help to create a categorisation system so that comparisons can be made between goods produced in the domestic UK market and those produced in foreign markets.

We have identified possible distinguishing features between models based on the below features. Please provide comment on these features, in particular their impact on price and cost.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Field description** | **Comment** |
| Steel grade (or alloy %) | Higher the alloy %, higher the cost and price. |
| Diameter (5 or 10 mm ranges) | Lower the diameter, higher the price. |
| Surface finish | Better surface finish requires additional cost. |
| End finish | End Finish requires additional cost. |
| Length | Standard length, no price effect, abnormal length cost and price varies. |
| kg per meter | Not dealt in by our company. |
| Weight | Price and cost are in kilogram as measure of weight. |
| Corrosion resistance | Corrosion resistance material is higher in cost and price. |
| Strength | Higher the strength, additional cost and price. |

Please provide any additional comments on the PCN structure.

|  |
| --- |
| None |

### E5 – Economic Interest Test

It is a requirement of the review to conduct an Economic Interest Test (EIT). The aim of the EIT is to determine whether the implementation of the proposed trade remedy measure is in the wider economic interest of the UK. In order to obtain a complete picture of the UK market, could you please help by providing us with details of your UK suppliers (upstream companies providing inputs) and UK customers (downstream companies buying your like goods). Please confirm in the final column if we are able to contact these companies.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Company name** | **Company location****(city, country)** | **Company contact information****(email/telephone)** | **Relationship** | **Can we contact?****Y/N** |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | None |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |

### E6 – Verification availability

The TRA will verify, as far as possible, the information provided to it. As part of this process, we may conduct verification visits. If we need to verify information that you provide by visiting your premises, the case team will contact you to arrange this.

Visits can last several days, during which we will want to speak to management and staff to help establish the completeness, relevance and accuracy of the information provided.

Please indicate any dates when you would be unable to host a verification visit.

|  |
| --- |
| October 2022 |

### E7 – Anything else

Please use the box below to provide information about anything else you consider relevant to this review.

None

Now you have reached the end of this questionnaire please ensure that you have prepared a confidential and non-confidential version and indicated the status of each within the header. The non-confidential version should redact personal contact information, names, signatures, and exact sales quotes. Redacted figures should be replaced with a range where possible. Please return both versions to the TRA using the Trade Remedies Service ([trade-remedies.service.gov.uk](https://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/accounts/login/?next=/dashboard/)).