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ITAC imposes 21% provisional safeguard duties on imports of A3 and A4 office paper

Mondi South Africa (Pty) Ltd, a major producer of A3 and A4 office paper in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), supported by Sappi, another producer of the subject product, made an application to ITAC for remedial action against imports of A3 and A4 office paper. These papers are commonly used for writing, printing and graphic purposes.

After reviewing the information available, the Commission made a preliminary finding that unforeseen developments and the effect of obligations incurred under GATT 1994 led to increased imports of the subject product in both absolute and relative terms. The Commission further found that the SACU industry is experiencing serious injury and that there is a causal link between the increased imports and the serious injury suffered by the industry.

As a result, the Commission requested the Commissioner of the South African Revenue Service (SARS) to impose a provisional safeguard measure in the form of a 21% ad valorem duty on imports of office paper (A3 and A4) classified under tariff subheadings 4802.56.20 and 4802.56.90, pending the finalisation of the investigation. These provisional safeguard measures were implemented by SARS on 30 October 2026.

The provisional measures apply to imports originating from all countries, except developing countries whose individual imports account for less than 3% of total imports of the subject product into SACU and whose collective imports do not exceed 9% of total imports, in accordance with the applicable safeguard provisions.

ITAC is now inviting comments on its preliminary findings. Interested parties may submit written comments within 14 days of the publication of the preliminary report.

Please refer to **Report 791** for full details.

ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION OF SOUTH AFRICA