

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE
AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS ON INITIATION OF
AN INVESTIGATION AND THE REASONS FOR IT**

JORDAN

The following communication, dated 30 May 2002, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

In accordance with Article 12.1(a) of the Agreement on Safeguards, and in light of the agreed format set by the respective Safeguards Committee in WTO document G/SG/1, Jordan hereby notifies the Committee that the National Protection Production Directorate (NPPD) has initiated a safeguards investigation regarding the increase in imports of unglazed ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; unglazed ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing:

- tiles, cubes and similar articles, whether or not rectangular, the largest surface area of which is capable of being enclosed in a square the side of which is less than 7 cm;
- others provided for in the Jordanian tariff system under tariff heading 6907.1/6907.9.

Glazed ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; glazed ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing:

- tiles, cubes and similar articles, whether or not rectangular, the largest surface area of which is capable of being enclosed in a square the side of which is less than 7 cm;
- others provided for in the Jordanian tariff system under tariff heading 6908.1/6908.9.

1. Specify the date when the investigation was initiated

The investigation was initiated on 29 May 2002.

2. Specify the product subject to investigation

The product subject to the investigation is unglazed ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; unglazed ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing:

- tiles, cubes and similar articles, whether or not rectangular, the largest surface area of which is capable of being enclosed in a square the side of which is less than 7 cm;

- others provided for in the Jordanian tariff system under tariff heading 6907.1/6907.9.

Glazed ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; glazed ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing:

- tiles, cubes and similar articles, whether or not rectangular, the largest surface area of which is capable of being enclosed in a square the side of which is less than 7 cm;
- others provided for in the Jordanian tariff system under tariff heading 6908.1/6908.9.

3. Provide the reasons for the initiation of investigation

The investigation was initiated following an examination of a safeguards petition filed with NPPD by domestic producers who represent the major proportion of the domestic industry of the subject product.

Data concerning the evolution of imports shows that it has consecutively increased since 1998 by 26 per cent in 1999, 74 per cent in 2000, and by 105 per cent in 2001.

As a result of imports' growth during the period examined, the Jordanian domestic industry suffered gross losses and recorded significant declines in production, productivity, capacity utilization, market share and labour.

The purpose of the safeguards investigation is to determine whether a safeguards measure is needed to remedy domestic industry from serious injury.
