

Dr Rob Davies, MP
Minister of Trade and Industry
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Dear Minister

MINUTE M07/2014: REDUCTION IN THE RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON COATED FINE PAPER

On 5 March 2014, in its Report No. 449, the Commission recommended that the general rate of duty on coated fine paper classifiable under tariff subheadings 4810.13.20, 4810.13.90, 4810.14.10, 4810.14.90, 4810.19.90 and 4810.29.90 be increased from free of duty to 5 per cent ad valorem, as it was found that the industry experienced price disadvantages against similar imported products.

The customs duty of 5% ad valorem was implemented on 11 April 2014.

On 9 October 2014, the Commission was informed by Sappi Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd, the sole domestic manufacturer of coated fine paper that it will cease production of the coated grades produced at its Stanger mill in December 2014.

As coated fine paper will no longer be manufactured domestically, and as the duty would have an undue cost-raising impact on downstream producers, the Commission decided to recommend that the rate of duty on coated fine paper, classifiable under tariff subheadings 4810.13.20, 4810.13.90, 4810.14.10, 4810.14.90, 4810.19.90 and 4810.29.90, be reduced from 5% ad valorem to free of duty.

Yours sincerely


Slyabulela Tsengiwe
Chief Commissioner

Date: 18/11/2014