

Report No. 124

Reduction in the rate of duty on sunglasses

The International Trade Administration Commission herewith presents its Report No. 124: REDUCTION IN THE RATE OF DUTY ON SUNGLASSES, with recommendations.


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Ms Nomonde Maimela
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

PRETORIA

27/09/..... 2005

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

REPORT NO. 124

APPLICATION FOR A REDUCTION IN THE RATE OF DUTY ON SUNGLASSES

Synopsis

The International Trade Administration Commission considered an application for reduction in the rate of duty on sunglasses.

The motivation for the application was that sunglasses are not manufactured domestically but had to be imported at an *ad valorem* duty of 10 percent. It was argued that this is an unnecessary cost burden to the consumer.

The Commission recommended that the rate of duty on sunglasses be reduced from 10% *ad valorem* to free of duty.

The application

1. The Commission received an application for a reduction in the rate of duty on sunglasses. It was argued that no domestic manufacturers of sunglasses exist and that the 10 percent *ad valorem* duty is an unnecessary cost burden to the consumer.
2. The application was published in the Government Gazette on 24 June 2005, for comments from interested parties. No comments were received.

The tariff position

3. Sunglasses are currently classifiable under tariff subheading 9004.10 at an *ad valorem* duty of 10% as follows:

Tariff heading	Description	General	EU	SADC
90.04	Spectacles, goggles and the Like, Corrective, Protective or Other:			
9004.10	- Sunglasses	10%	10%	Free
9004.90	- Other	Free	Free	Free

Findings

4. As there are no domestic manufacturers of sunglasses and as the duty has an

unnecessary cost-raising effect, the Commission decided to support the application.

Recommendation

5. The Commission recommended that the duty on sunglasses be reduced from 10 percent *ad valorem* to free of duty.

[T5/2/18/1 (7/2005)]