



**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS
ON INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION REGARDING
THE EXTENSION OF A SAFEGUARD MEASURE**

SOUTH AFRICA

Threaded fasteners of iron or steel

Supplement

The following communication, dated 27 February 2026 and received on 5 March 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of South Africa.

Pursuant to Article 12.1(a) of the Agreement on Safeguards, South Africa hereby notifies the initiation of an investigation into the possible extension of the safeguard measures currently applied to imports of threaded fasteners of iron or steel, consisting of bolt ends and screw studs, screw studding, and other hexagon nuts (excluding those of stainless steel and those identifiable for aircraft), classifiable under tariff subheadings 7318.15.41, 7318.15.42, and 7318.16.30.

1. The date when the investigation was initiated

The investigation was initiated on 27 February 2026. The notice of initiation by the investigating authority was published through notice No 3802 of 2024 in *Government Gazette* No 54221 on 27 February 2026.¹

2. The product subject to the investigation

The subject product is described as threaded fasteners of iron or steel, consisting of bolt ends and screw studs, screw studding, and other hexagon nuts (excluding those of stainless steel and those identifiable for aircraft), classifiable under tariff subheadings 7318.15.41, 7318.15.42, and 7318.16.30.

3. The reasons for the initiation of investigation

(i) The application was lodged by the South African Fastener Manufacturers Association (SAFMA) an industry body, on behalf of its members CBC Fasteners (Pty) Ltd (CBC), T&I Chalmers Engineering (T&I Chalmers), Transvaal Pressed Nuts Bolts and Rivets (Pty) Ltd (TPN), Impala Bolt and Nut (Pty) Ltd (Impala), Afkor Belange (Pty) Ltd t/a Ebenhaeser Engineering (Ebenhaeser), and Tel-Screw Products (Pty) Ltd (Telscrew). These are the major producers of the subject products in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) industry.

The claim is that the SACU industry is suffering serious injury and the expiry of the safeguard measures will likely lead to a recurrence of serious injury to the SACU industry.

¹ A copy of the Notice has also been submitted electronically. To consult it, please contact Ms Anne Richards of the Rules Division (anne.richards@wto.org).

(ii) *Prima facie* information on which the investigation was initiated:

The Commission found that the Applicant submitted *prima facie* information to indicate that the expiry of the safeguard measures on the imports of threaded fasteners of iron or steel, consisting of bolt ends and screw studs, screw studding, and other hexagon nuts (excluding those of stainless steel and those identifiable for aircraft), classifiable under tariff subheadings 7318.15.41, 7318.15.42, and 7318.16.30 will likely lead to a recurrence and/or continuation of serious injury to the SACU industry.

4. Serious injury and causal link

The period of investigation for data evaluation for the purposes of determining the allegation of serious injury is from 01 May 2022 to 30 April 2025. Plus estimate 01 May 2025 to 30 April 2026. Including estimates should the duty expire covering the period, 01 May 2026 to 30 April 2028.

The injury analysis relates to information submitted by CBC, Impala and T&I Chalmers, members of SAFMA constituting the major producers of the subject product in the SACU with a major proportion of the total domestic production of those products.

The Applicant alleged and submitted *prima facie* information indicating that it is experiencing serious injury in the form of a decline in sales volumes, profits, market share and employment for the period 01 May 2022 to 30 April 2026. The Applicant further alleged and submitted *prima facie* information based on estimates that should the duties expire, serious injury will recur in the form a decline in sales volumes, profits, output, productivity, market share, utilisation of capacity and employment for the period estimate from 01 May 2026 to 30 April 2028.

On this basis the Commission found that *prima facie* information was submitted to indicate that the SACU industry was suffering serious injury and that expiry of the safeguard measures will likely lead to a recurrence of serious injury to the SACU industry.

5. Further information

Interested parties must make themselves known within a period of 20 days after the initiation of the investigation.

Any information that the interested parties may wish to submit in writing and any request for a hearing before the Commission that they may wish to put forward should be submitted within 20 days following the initiation of this investigation to the Directorate: Trade Remedies II at the following address: The DTI Campus, 77 Meintjies Street, Sunnyside Pretoria, Block Uuzaji, Ground Floor, tel: +27 12 394 3600, fax +27 12 394 0518, email addresses: rmuumba@itac.org.za pchuma@itac.org.za and mbaloyi@itac.org.za.

If part of the information provided is of a confidential nature, the party concerned should give the grounds justifying confidentiality and furnish public summaries of such information, which should be as detailed as possible. In instances that a public summary cannot be provided a sworn statement must be provided stating the reasons why the information cannot be summarized. This requirement is designed to secure transparency and due access by all parties to the information relating to this investigation. If the summaries are not duly provided and in the absence of just cause, ITAC may disregard the information deemed to be confidential.
