Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade Trade Remedies Sector

Notice No. (6) of the Year 2025 Non official translation Initiation of a Safeguard Investigation into the Increase in Imports of Hot Rolled Flat Steel (HRC and/or HRFS)

Pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 161 of the year 1998 concerning the Protection of the National Economy from the Injurious Effects of Unfair Practices in International Trade and its Executive Regulation issued by virtue of the Ministerial Decree No. 549 of the year 1998 and amendments thereto (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Regulation"), the Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade approved, on 22/4/2025, the initiation of a safeguard investigation against the increase in the imports of Hot Rolled Flat Steel (HRC and/or HRFS).

1. Procedures

On 19/1/2025, the Trade Remedies Sector (hereinafter referred to as the Investigating Authority "the IA" received a properly documented application from Al Ezz Dekheila Steel Company (S.A.E.)— Alexandria and Al Ezz Flat Steel Company (S.A.E.), hereinafter referred to as "the domestic industry" in accordance with the provisions of Article (14) of the Regulation of Law No. 161 of the year 1998 concerning the Protection of the National Economy from the Injurious Effects of Unfair Practices in International Trade. The Domestic Industry alleged that there was a substantial increase in the imports of Hot Rolled Flat Steel (HRC and/or HRFS), causing a serious injury thereto. The application was accepted and registered after the examination of the accuracy and adequacy of the evidence contained therein.

On 22/4/2025, the IA examined the accuracy and adequacy of the data contained in the application and submitted a report to the Advisory Committee, which in turn, approved the recommendation the Trade Remedies Sector to initiate an investigation and publish a Notice of Initiation in the Egyptian *Official Gazette*. The Advisory Committee submitted such recommendations to the Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade who, in turn, approved thereon.

2. Domestic Industry

Al Ezz Dekheila Steel Company (S.A.E.) –Alexandria and Al Ezz Flat Steel Company (S.A.E.) represents the domestic industry whose production constitutes 100 percent of the total domestic production of the like product.

3. Product under Investigation

The products under investigation is Hot Rolled Flat Steel (HRC and/or HRFS), which are classified under H.S Tariff Codes: 720839, 720838, 720837, 720836, 720827, 720826, 720825, 720810, 721119, 721114 720890, 720854, 720853, 720852, 720851, 720840, 722699, 722691, 722540, 722530.

4. Imports

The volume of imports increased in absolute terms during the first half of the year 2024 compared to the same period of the year 2023 and increased relative to the domestic production during the same period.

5. Serious Injury

The available information shows an increase in the volume of imports causing serious injury to some indicators of the domestic industry.

6. Injury Analysis Period

The injury analysis period covers the years 2021, 2022, 2023 and the first half of the year 2024. The IA will extend the period of investigation to include the second half of the year 2024.

7. Interested Parties

All interested parties shall make themselves known to the Trade Remedies Sector within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice and submit properly documented comments or information.

8. Confidentiality

In case any interested party provides confidential information, such party shall explain the reasons why such information should be treated as confidential and furnish a non-confidential summary thereof. Parties may indicate that the information is not susceptible of summary and in such circumstances, a statement of the reasons why summarization is not possible must be provided.

9. Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held during the investigation in order to allow all interested parties to present their views and arguments, provided that the parties submit a written request containing the reasons why they should be heard within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. All views and arguments presented verbally during the hearing should be sent later in writing and in two versions, confidential and non-confidential.

10. On-the-spot Verification Visits

In accordance with the provisions of Article (26) of the Regulation, the IA may make an on- the- spot verification visits to the premises of the interested parties in order to verify the submitted information and data and to obtain any other additional information that may be required for the investigation.

11. **Information**

<u>For further information, please contact the Trade Remedies Sector. All documents shall be</u> sent to the following address:

Ministry of Investment &Foreign Trade Trade Remedies Sector Head of Trade Remedies Sector Att.: "Dr. Yomna El-Shabrawy"

Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade Building -Third Floor

Government District- New Administrative Capital

E-mail: ITPD@tas.gov.eg