

Act”) and the Petitioners, the product that is, “like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with the article subject to investigation” is wooden bedroom furniture.

#### Determination of Industry Support for the Petition

Section 732(b)(1) of the Act requires that a petition be filed on behalf of the domestic industry. Section 732(c)(4)(A) of the Act provides that the Department’s industry support determination be based on whether a minimum percentage of the relevant industry supports the petition. A petition meets this requirement if the domestic producers or workers who support the petition account for: (i) At least 25 percent of the total production of the domestic like product; and (ii) more than 50 percent of the production of the domestic like product produced by that portion of the industry expressing support for, or opposition to, the petition. Moreover, section 732(c)(4)(D) of the Act provides that, if the petition does not establish support of domestic producers or workers accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product, the Department shall: (i) Poll the industry or rely on other information in order to determine if there is support for the petition, as required by subparagraph (A), or (ii) determine industry support using a statistically valid sampling method to poll the industry.

#### Request for Information

Because the Petition has not established that domestic producers or workers accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product support the petition, we must “poll or otherwise determine industry support for the petition by the industry.”

In accordance with section 732(c)(4)(D) of the Act and in order to determine whether the petition establishes support of domestic producers or workers accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product, we are hereby requesting that all domestic producer/manufacturers of the wooden bedroom furniture submit to the Department a response to the questions in Appendix I of this notice.

#### Filing Requirements

Given the very short period in which we must determine industry support,

the number of potential responses, and the fact that industry support may not be re-examined after initiation, we are waiving the filing requirements set forth in 19 CFR 351.303 for certain parties submitting information on industry support. This waiver of the filing requirements will not apply to: 1) the submission of documents that are not in response to the information requested in this notice or 2) parties that are familiar with the conduct of antidumping and countervailing proceedings through prior involvement in such proceedings (e.g., parties represented by law firms that are involved in other AD/CVD cases).

This limited waiver is applicable only until November 26, 2003, the deadline for submitting the information requested in this notice. This waiver is intended to expedite the receipt of information that is essential to our analysis of industry support by providing information on the production of the domestic like product by petitioning and non-petitioning companies. By avoiding delays in the receipt of such information, we will have more time to analyze whether the statutory requirements concerning industry support for the above-referenced petitions have been met.

All parties submitting any information must include the following statement in their response: “I, (name and title), currently employed by (person), certify that (1) I have read the attached submission, and (2) based on the information made available to me by (person), I have no reason to believe that this submission contains any material misrepresentation or omission of fact.” All information received by the Department will be treated as business proprietary information as outlined in our regulations (19 CFR 351.304–306), unless otherwise noted. Please note that all company names will be treated as public information. In addition, note that all business proprietary documents received by the Department in response to this notice will be served to those individuals with access to business proprietary information under the Administrative Protective Order (“APO”). All public documents may be made available to those parties on the public service list. The APO service lists and the public service lists are available on Import Administration’s Web site: <http://ia.ita.doc.gov>.

Information submitted to the Department in response to this notice

should be faxed to the following number: 202–482–9089. Furthermore, all such information will be placed on the official record of the proceeding. Responses to this notice are due no later than November 26, 2003. Responses after this date may not be reviewed by the Department and therefore, not included in the analysis.

#### Extension of Time

Section 732(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the Act provides that within 20 days of the filing of an antidumping duty petition, the Department will determine, *inter alia*, whether the petition has been filed by or on behalf of the U.S. industry producing the domestic like product. Section 732(c)(1)(B) provides that the deadline for the initiation determination can be extended by 20 days in any case in which the Department must “poll or otherwise determine support for the petition by the industry \* \* \*.”

We will require additional information from the petitioners and the domestic producers of wooden bedroom furniture in order to make our determination regarding industry support and/or time to analyze the petitioners’ responses to our requests for information. See *Memorandum to Joseph A. Spetrini, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Group III from Edward C. Yang, Office Director, AD/CVD Enforcement III, Office IX, regarding Antidumping Duty Petition on Wooden Bedroom Furniture from the People’s Republic of China: Extension of Deadline for Determining Industry Support*, dated November 13, 2003. Therefore, it is necessary to extend the deadline for decision on initiation for a period not to exceed 40 days from the filing of the petition. As a result, the initiation determination is due no later than December 10, 2003.

#### International Trade Commission Notification

Because the Department has extended the deadline of the initiation determination, the Department will contact the Commission and will make this extension notice available to the Commission.

Dated: November 19, 2003.

**Edward C. Yang,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Group III.*

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