

JOINT STUDY OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AUSTRALIA'S ANTI-DUMPING SYSTEM

PROGRESS REPORT TO STAKEHOLDERS

The Reference Group met with the Joint Study Steering Group on 26 May to consider and discuss a number of options papers developed by the Joint Study team. The Reference Group will meet again in July to consider specific proposals for enhancements to the administration of Australia's anti-dumping system.

The following is a brief summary of the main areas in which changes are being considered. Please note that this list is not necessarily exhaustive, and should not be construed to indicate that changes will necessarily be made in any of the areas listed. Options that will form the basis for recommendations from the study are currently being developed by the Joint Study Steering Group in consultation with the Reference Group.

AREAS IN WHICH CHANGES ARE BEING CONSIDERED

- Improved access to the anti-dumping system via enhanced guidelines:
 - to assist applicants, particularly smaller enterprises, to complete an application
 - to maximise consistency in the approach taken by Customs officers in screening applications and ensure that the screening process is understood by applicants
- Initiatives designed to assist small and medium sized enterprises to access the anti-dumping system
- An enhanced pre-lodgement application feedback process
- Introduction of a more formal process to clearly advise applicants of information gaps in an application at the pre-lodgement assessment stage and/or during formal screening of a lodged application.
- Improved access to case precedents, court decisions, legal advice, TMRO decisions and WTO jurisprudence, perhaps via additions to the Dumping Manual to make it a more useful resource for investigating officers and interested parties
- Improvements to analysis and reporting of material injury and causal link including adoption of approaches used in other jurisdictions.
- Assessment of injury in cases involving internal transfers or sales between related parties
- Requirements for explanation of each item of confidential information deleted from a non-confidential public version of a confidential report or submission
- Timing of the addition of information to the public file
- The nature and extent of Customs' contact with industry after measures are imposed and monitoring of measures to ensure correct duties are being paid.

22 June 2006