

28 May 2026

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Committee on Safeguards

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**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE AGREEMENT ON
SAFEGUARDS ON INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION
AND THE REASONS FOR IT**

NEW ZEALAND

Certain aluminium extrusions

The following communication, dated and received on 27 May 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of New Zealand.

1. Specify the date when the investigation was initiated

28 May 2026.

The New Zealand Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the Minister) initiated a safeguard investigation by New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) into increased imports of certain aluminium extrusion products on 28 May 2026.

New Zealand's current safeguard procedures were notified to the WTO in document G/SG/N/1/NZL/2 dated 8 December 2014. The New Zealand Trade (Safeguard Measures) Act 2014 (the Act) governs New Zealand's safeguards regime in accordance with the WTO Agreements.

Pursuant to Section 8(3) of the Act, the Minister notified the decision to initiate a safeguard investigation in the New Zealand Gazette. This Notice of Initiation of the investigation is also attached to this Article 12.1(a) Agreement on Safeguards notification.*

If the Minister is satisfied that imports meet the conditions in Section 19(1) of the Act, the actions the Minister may take are to order a safeguard duty be imposed or recommend imposing a safeguard measure. MBIE is to provide a substantive report to the Minister within four months of the initiation.

In case of critical circumstances, where a delay would cause damage which it would be difficult to repair, MBIE will provide advice to the Minister after the investigation has been initiated surrounding provisional safeguard duty conditions. If the Minister is satisfied there are reasonable grounds that such circumstances exist and conditions are met, pursuant to Section 14 of the Act, the Minister may order that a provisional safeguard duty be imposed on imported goods.

Australia and Singapore are excluded from safeguard action under the Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement and the Agreement between Singapore and New Zealand on a Closer Economic Partnership. Australia and Singapore will be excluded from the entirety of the investigation, including the injury assessment. New Zealand will also take into account any relevant commitments in its other bilateral and plurilateral free trade agreements, where appropriate.

* A copy of the Notice of Initiation has been submitted electronically and is available from the WTO Secretariat. To consult it, please contact Ms Anne Richards of the Rules Division (anne.richards@wto.org).

2. Provide the precise description of the product involved

Certain aluminium extrusions

The relevant imported goods are certain aluminium extrusions (the products concerned) produced by an extrusion process. The imported goods are classified in the Working Tariff Document of New Zealand (WTD) as follows:

- a) Tariff item 7604.21.00 00B - Aluminium bars, rods and profiles of aluminium alloys - Hollow profiles
- b) Tariff item 7604.29.09 00F - Aluminium bars, rods and profiles of aluminium alloys - Other

The products concerned are aluminium alloys containing metallic elements that fall within the Aluminium Association alloy series starting with 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 or 7, or equivalent proprietary or certifying-body alloy designations. The extrusions may be worked or unworked, and either left in their original, as extruded (mill) finish, or mechanically finished, anodised, painted, or otherwise coated.

This description includes products that have been further worked, to a limited extent, after extrusion. However, it does not include products that are worked to the extent that they become classified under a different tariff item in the WTD.

HS code(s): 7604.21.00 00b, 7604.29.09 00f

3. Provide the reasons for the initiation of investigation, for example:

- (i) **Was the investigation initiated pursuant to a petition from the domestic industry?**
- (ii) **Evidence on the basis of which the investigation was initiated.**
- (iii) **Evidence, if any, of critical circumstances where delay would cause damage which it would be difficult to repair.**

MBIE received an application for a safeguard investigation from the domestic industry. MBIE deemed the application contained the necessary information required under Article 9 of the Act and provided advice to the Minister.

Within the meaning of Section 8 of the Act, the Minister was satisfied the application contained reasonable grounds that increased imports are causing serious injury to the domestic industry and on 28 May 2026 initiated a safeguard investigation by MBIE.

The applicant's data showed that imports increased relative to domestic production between 2023 and 2025, with the ratio rising from 50% to 64%, and import market share increasing from 33% to 39%. MBIE assessed this evidence by cross-checking against more detailed confidential New Zealand Customs data for the relevant tariff lines. MBIE's assessment showed that imports increased relative to domestic production under the more representative tariff line, and when both lines were considered together. On this basis, the Minister considered there are reasonable grounds to find a relative increase in imports for the purposes of initiation.

The application provided evidence the surge in import volumes relative to domestic production volumes have been caused by unforeseen developments including third countries trade and industrial policy developments.

There is also sufficient evidence showing that the volume and the prices of these imports have caused serious injury to the New Zealand industry. In particular, the evidence shows that imports of the product concerned have had, among other consequences, a negative impact on price effects, output and sales, market share, profitability, productivity and in employments of the New Zealand producers.

4. Provide a point of contact for the investigation and identify the preferred means for corresponding. The point of contact would be available to respond to enquiries relating to the procedures applicable to the investigation.

Point of contact for the investigation and correspondence is:

Minister of Business, Innovation and Employment
Trade Remedies
15 Stout Street, Wellington Central
Wellington 6011
New Zealand

Website: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/business/trade-and-tariffs/trade-remedies/trade-remedy-investigations>

E-mail address: TradeRemedies@mbie.govt.nz

5. Provide the deadlines and procedures for importers, exporters and other interested parties to present evidence and their views, including:

- (i) **deadlines and procedures for Members and exporters to identify themselves as interested parties, if so required, to participate in the investigation; and**
- (ii) **the date of an intended public hearing as provided for in Article 3.1.**

Note: At the time of the initiation, if the authority has not decided whether or not to hold such a hearing, or if the date of the hearing is undetermined, Members should indicate under this item how such information would be publicized. Members are not obliged to submit another notification simply due to the fact that the proposed date has subsequently been changed.

To obtain the information it deems necessary for its review investigation, MBIE will send questionnaires to the known producers of the product concerned domestically. Questionnaires and information sheets are encouraged to be filled out by all potential interested persons, including international interested persons. MBIE will publish questionnaires and information sheets which will be made available at the website (as above).

Submission of an information sheet will automatically register the provider as an interested person and add them to a distribution list. All interested persons including exporters, producers, importers and users of the products concerned and their associations, as well as third country governments are invited to make known their views in writing, submit information and to provide supporting evidence.

Interested persons are entitled to request information held on the public file at any time throughout the investigation period via the email provided above. MBIE will not release any confidential information, unless MBIE has consent to do so by the provider of the information. Alongside a confidential submission, interested persons are encouraged to submit a non-confidential version or indicate if it is suitable to be published on the public file.
