



24 April 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**

CANADA

*Certain wood goods*

The following communication, dated and received on 23 April 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Canada.

**1. Specify the date when the investigation was initiated**

21 April 2026.

The global safeguard investigation was initiated by the Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT) on 21 April 2026. Public notice of the investigation was provided on that day, with the publication by the CITT of a Notice of Commencement of Safeguard Inquiry. A copy of the Notice can be found on the CITT's website at [Certain Wood Goods - Canadian International Trade Tribunal](#).

**2. Provide the precise description of the product involved**

Certain Wood Goods

The product covered by this investigation is Wood Goods.

Product details are provided and exclusions are described in Annex I. The HS codes provided below, and included in Annex I, represent the codes under which these products are usually imported. HS codes are provided for illustrative purposes only.

HS code(s): 9403.40.00.10, 9403.60.10.31, 9403.60.10.39, 4409.29.10.00, 4409.29.90.41, 4409.29.90.49, 4418.74.00.00, 4418.75.00.10, 4418.75.00.90, 4418.79.00.00, 9403.50.00.90, 9403.60.10.10, 9403.60.10.60, 9403.60.10.91

**3. Provide the reasons for the initiation of the 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.**

The Government of Canada, by government order, directed the CITT to initiate a safeguard investigation under section 20 of the Canadian International Trade Tribunal Act. A copy of the CITT Notice of Commencement of Safeguard Inquiry is being submitted to the Committee. A copy can also be obtained from the [CITT's website](#).

The investigation was initiated following a recommendation of the Minister of Finance. On the basis of information currently available, it appears that: 1) certain wood goods are being imported into

Canada in increased quantities; 2) the importation in increased quantities of wood goods is the result of the obligations, including tariff concessions, incurred by Canada under the World Trade Organization Agreement and of unforeseen developments in global trade, including the fact that some WTO Members have taken or are considering taking measures to restrict the importation of wood goods into their markets, which appears to have caused significant trade diversion into Canada; and 3) certain wood goods are being imported under such conditions as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to domestic producers of like or directly competitive goods.

**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:

Registrar  
Canadian International Trade Tribunal  
5th Floor  
333 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G7

Preferred means for correspondence:

E-mail address: [citt-tcce@tribunal.gc.ca](mailto:citt-tcce@tribunal.gc.ca)

**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.**

Deadlines and procedures related to the participation of interested parties in the inquiry are set out in the Notice of Commencement of Safeguard Inquiry published by the CITT, submitted to the Committee and available on the [CITT's website](#). Importers, exporters and other interested parties will be able to present evidence and their views during the inquiry up to and during the hearing to be held by CITT.

The CITT will post questionnaires on 15 May 2026, to domestic producers, importers and foreign producers of the products concerned to request relevant statistical and other information. Responses to the questionnaires should be filed no later than 5 June 2026. Interested parties will also be able to file case briefs and reply briefs, as per the schedule set out by the CITT.

Interested parties wishing to participate in the inquiry as a party must file a [Notice of Participation](#) with the CITT by 15 May 2026. Each counsel who intends to represent a party in the inquiry must file a [Notice of Representation](#), as well as a [Declaration and Undertaking](#), with the Tribunal on or before 15 May 2026. This deadline must be strictly observed. Notices of Participation filed after the deadline will only be accepted in demonstrably extraordinary circumstances and with leave of the CITT.

The CITT will hold hearings relating to this safeguard inquiry commencing on 1 October 2026. The Tribunal intends to hold a hybrid hearing in-person and via videoconference.

**Additional information**

**Members are encouraged to attach, in an electronic form, publicly available document(s) containing the relevant decision(s) made by the competent authority. This document may be in the original language of the Member, even when the language is not one of the official languages of the WTO. The document will neither be translated nor circulated to the Committee, but will be made available by the Secretariat to Members requesting it.**

**ANNEX I****PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS****Wood Goods****1. Solid and engineered wood cabinets and vanities:**

Wood cabinets and vanities, and their subassemblies, for permanent installation, including any installation that is floor-mounted, wall-mounted, built-in, ceiling-hung or connected to the plumbing system, made in whole or in part of wood products, including solid wood or engineered wood products, typically made from wood particles, fibres or other wood materials such as plywood, strand board, block board, particle board or fibreboard or from bamboo – with or without wood veneers, wood, paper or other overlays or laminates, or non-wood components or trim such as metal, marble, glass, plastic or resin – whether surface-finished or unfinished, completed or uncompleted or sold in an assembled, flat-pack or ready-to-assemble format, whether attached to, or in conjunction with, faucets, metal plumbing, sinks or sink bowls or countertops.

The term "for permanent installation" means that the goods are designed and intended to be installed in a fixed location as an integral part of a building or structure. The term "permanent" refers to the intended fixed installation and does not mean that the goods cannot be removed, relocated or replaced. Goods are included in this class based on their use, regardless of whether they are marketed or packaged as "permanent", "semi-permanent" or "modular".

Wood cabinets and vanities consist of a box (which typically includes a top, a bottom, sides, a back, base blockers, ends or end panels, stretcher rails, toe kicks or shelves) and may include a frame, a door, drawers or shelves. They are generally used for permanent installation in kitchens or bathrooms but can also include "built-in" closet units.

The class of goods include the following wood subassemblies of cabinets and vanities:

- (a) wood cabinet and vanity frames,
- (b) wood cabinet and vanity boxes (which typically include a top, bottom, sides, back, base blockers, ends or end panels, stretcher rails, toe kicks or shelves),
- (c) wood cabinet or vanity doors,
- (d) wood cabinet or vanity drawers and drawer components (which typically include sides, backs, bottoms and faces),
- (e) back panels and end panels, and
- (f) desks, shelves and tables that are attached to or incorporated in wood cabinets.

The class of goods include all unassembled, assembled or ready to assemble wood cabinets and vanities, which are also commonly known as "flat packs". Ready-to-assemble goods may be imported in one or in multiple packages. Ready-to-assemble wood cabinets and vanities are defined as packaged cabinets or vanities so that, at the time of importation, they may include

- (a) wood components required to assemble a cabinet or vanity (including drawer faces and doors), and
- (b) parts (for example, screws, washers, dowels, nails, handles, knobs and adhesive glues) required to assemble a cabinet or vanity.

For greater certainty, the subject goods do not include:

- (a) freestanding furniture not designed for kitchen or bathroom use, including office furniture or retail display fixtures,
- (b) the following, if imported separately from a wood cabinet or vanity,
  - (i) aftermarket accessory items that may be added to or installed inside the interior of a cabinet, that are not considered a structural or core component of a wood cabinet or vanity, that may be made of wood, metal, plastic, composite material or a combination of these materials that may be inserted into a cabinet, that are used for organizational or accessibility purposes in the interior of a cabinet, and that include

- (A) inserts or dividers that are placed into drawer boxes to organize or divide the internal portion of a drawer into multiple areas for the purpose of containing smaller items such as cutlery, utensils and bathroom essentials, and
- (B) round or oblong inserts that rotate internally in a cabinet for the purpose of improving access to cabinet contents;
- (ii) solid wood accessories including corbels and rosettes, which serve the primary purpose of decoration and personalization; and
- (iii) non-wood cabinet hardware components including metal hinges, brackets, catches, locks, drawer slides, fasteners (nails, screws, tacks, staples), handles, and knobs; and
- (c) medicine cabinets that meet the following criteria:
  - (i) are intended to be wall-mounted,
  - (ii) are assembled at the time of entry into Canada,
  - (iii) contain one or more mirrors,
  - (iv) are packaged for retail sale at the time of entry into Canada, and
  - (v) have a maximum depth of seven inches.

Goods of this class are normally, but may not exclusively be, classified under the following tariff classification numbers:

9403.40.00.10  
9403.60.10.31  
9403.60.10.39

HS codes are provided for illustrative purposes only. There may be goods under the listed HS numbers that do not fall within the product definition, or goods that fall within the product definition that are imported under an HS number that is not listed.

## **2. Solid and engineered hardwood flooring:**

Non-coniferous flooring regardless of construction method, species, finish, profile, dimension or installation system, including solid hardwood flooring, engineered hardwood flooring, and composite (hybrid) hardwood flooring, that contains a real wood wear layer, whether manufactured from a single, continuous piece of wood, bonded to a core of multiple layers of wood assembled in a cross-laminated construction (where the grain pattern alternates direction between layers), bonded to a rigid composite core (including cores made of stone-polymer composite or similar rigid materials), whether containing glues or resins, whether prefinished or unfinished

The subject goods may be imported in any form, including tongue-and-groove planks, click-lock planks, strips, tiles and panels and may be unfinished or factory prefinished. The wood flooring subject goods include flooring intended for residential, commercial or industrial applications.

For greater certainty, the subject goods do not include:

- (a) flooring products that lack a real wood wear layer (for example, vinyl flooring, laminate flooring or any product that uses a drawn or photographic image to mimic wood), and
- (b) coniferous wood flooring (softwood).

Goods of this class are normally, but may not exclusively, be classified under the following tariff classification numbers:

4409.29.10.00  
4409.29.90.41  
4409.29.90.49  
4418.74.00.00  
4418.75.00.10  
4418.75.00.90  
4418.79.00.00

HS codes are provided for illustrative purposes only. There may be goods under the listed HS numbers that do not fall within the product definition, or goods that fall within the product definition that are imported under an HS number that is not listed.

### **3. Engineered-wood storage furniture:**

Wood furniture for domestic purposes that is used in whole or in part for storage and that is not intended to be permanently installed, substantially or wholly composed of engineered wood, including particle board, medium-density fibreboard, high-density fibreboard or other wood composite panels, whether assembled or unassembled (including ready-to-assemble furniture), whether finished or unfinished, laminated, veneered, wrapped, coated, painted, lacquered or otherwise finished (including with melamine paper, decorative paper, thermally fused laminate, high-pressure laminate, foil, OPP, PVC, polymer film or other overlays), and sold or shipped in kits or with non-wood components

These goods are typically manufactured using similar processes and wood material inputs - using the same machinery and production lines - by the same workforce and within the same facilities. They share common construction methods, materials and finishing processes. They differ mainly in design and size rather than in fundamental function or production technology. They are sold in the same market and the same distribution channels.

The goods include household furniture, and their subassemblies, such as ready-to-assemble or fully assembled box goods, including wardrobes, closets, dressers, chests, nightstands, beds and bed components, TV stands, media consoles, sideboards, buffets, credenzas, bookcases, shelving units, desks, tables with drawers or storage, coffee tables with drawers or storage, end tables with drawers or storage, storage cabinets and similar furniture articles.

The goods may be surface-finished or unfinished and may be laminated, veneered, wrapped, coated, painted, lacquered or otherwise finished, including with melamine paper, decorative paper, thermally fused laminate, high-pressure laminate, foil, OPP, PVC, polymer film or other overlays.

The goods may be sold with or without non-wood components, including fasteners, screws, dowels, cams, brackets, hinges, slides, runners, handles, knobs, legs, bases, metal frames, glass, mirrors, plastic components or other hardware or trim, whether packaged separately or installed. Goods are included in this class whether packed as flat-pack or ready-to-assemble kits, sold as completed furniture or sold with assembly instructions, tools or accessory parts.

For greater certainty, the subject goods include furniture articles and components produced through common engineered-wood manufacturing processes, including panel cutting, CNC machining, drilling, routing, grooving, boring, laminating, edge banding, finishing, kitting and packaging.

For greater certainty, the subject goods do not include storage furniture wholly composed of solid wood.

Goods of this class are normally, but may not exclusively, be classified under the following tariff classification numbers:

9403.50.00.90  
9403.60.10.10  
9403.60.10.60  
9403.60.10.91

HS codes are provided for illustrative purposes only. There may be goods under the listed HS numbers that do not fall within the product definition, or goods that fall within the product definition that are imported under an HS number that is not listed.

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