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3.6 Anti-dumping Measures



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NOTE

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WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

The official title of this WTO agreement reads *Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994*. However, it is consistently referred to as the *Anti-Dumping Agreement* (ADA).

The ADA sets out the conditions under which WTO Members may apply anti-dumping measures as a remedy against injurious dumping in their markets. It provides detailed rules on the concepts of *dumping* and *material injury* and contains many procedural provisions that WTO Members, wishing to take anti-dumping action, must comply with.

This Module gives an overview of the provisions of the *Anti-Dumping Agreement*, and how these provisions have been interpreted by Panels and the Appellate Body over the last seven years. It covers both substantive and procedural rules. Since the entry into force of the ADA in 1995, ten WTO Panel reports have been issued interpreting ADA provisions, of which seven were appealed. These Panel and Appellate Body reports offer crucial interpretations of key provisions of the Agreement. Panel and Appellate Body findings form an important element of this Module are covered in tandem with the relevant provisions. This Module takes into account reports issued until 31 August 2001.

The first Section gives a general overview of the ADA.

The second Section, entitled “the determination of dumping”, explains in some detail the three forms of dumping, considered actionable under the ADA. The third Section on the “determination of injury” examines the material injury requirement, as well as related concepts such as the determination of the like product and the domestic industry and the causal link between the dumped imports and the injury suffered by the domestic industry.

The fourth Section, entitled “the national procedures”, highlights the various stages of an anti-dumping investigation and discusses the rights of interested parties.

Section 5 discusses WTO dispute settlement procedures particular to the ADA. Section 6 analyses the position of developing countries under the ADA.

This Module describes how to conduct a simple anti-dumping calculation and the formal stages of anti-dumping procedures. It also identifies the areas in which the case law of the Panel and the Appellate Body has had a significant impact on the application of the ADA provisions.

1. INTRODUCTION

This section gives an overview of the history of international regulation of dumping, anti-dumping measures and forms of dumping and injury. It also provides a summary overview of the Anti-Dumping Agreement [ADA] and explains certain key terms in the ADA.

1.1 History

Dumping occurs if a company sells at a lower price in an export market than in its domestic market. If such dumping injures the domestic producers in the importing country, under certain circumstances the importing country authorities may impose anti-dumping duties to offset the effects of the dumping.

National anti-dumping legislation dates back to the beginning of the 20th century. The GATT 1947 contained a special article on dumping and anti-dumping action. Article VI of the GATT *condemns* dumping that causes injury, but it does not prohibit it.

Article VI:1 GATT 1994

The contracting parties recognize that dumping, by which products of one country are introduced into the commerce of another country at less than the normal value of the products, is to be condemned if it causes or threatens material injury to an established industry in the territory of a contracting party or materially retards the establishment of a domestic industry.

Rather, Article VI authorizes the *importing Member* to take measures to offset injurious dumping. This approach follows logically from the definition of dumping as price discrimination practised by private companies. The GATT addresses *governmental* behaviour and therefore cannot possibly prohibit dumping by private enterprises. Moreover, importing countries may not find it in their interest to act against dumping, for example because their user industries benefit from the low prices.

Thus, GATT (and now the WTO) approaches the problem from the other side, *i.e.* from the position of the importing Member. However, recognizing the potential for trade-restrictive application, GATT (like WTO) law prescribes in some detail the circumstances under which anti-dumping measures may be imposed.

Since 1947, anti-dumping has received elaborate attention in the GATT/WTO on several occasions. Following a 1958 GATT Secretariat study of national anti-dumping laws, a Group of Experts was established that in 1960 agreed on certain common interpretations of ambiguous terms of Article VI.

An Anti-Dumping Code was negotiated during the 1967 Kennedy Round and signed by 17 parties. The Code was revised during the Tokyo Round. The Tokyo Round Code had 25 signatories, counting the EC as one. Although the 1979 Code was not explicitly mentioned in the Ministerial Declaration on the Uruguay Round, fairly early in the negotiations a number of GATT Contracting Parties, including the EC, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and the United States proposed changes to the 1979 Code.

1.2 Current Situation

Article VI was carried forward into GATT 1994. A new agreement, the Agreement on Implementation of Article VI [ADA], was concluded in 1994 as a result of the Uruguay Round. Article VI and the ADA apply together.

Article 1 ADA

An anti-dumping measure shall be applied only under the circumstances provided for in Article VI of GATT 1994 and pursuant to investigations initiated and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

1.3 Outline of ADA

The ADA is divided into three parts and two important annexes. Part I, covering Articles 1 to 15, is the heart of the Agreement and contains the definitions of dumping (Article 2) and injury (Article 3) as well as all procedural provisions that must be complied with by importing Member authorities wishing to take anti-dumping measures. Articles 16 and 17 in Part II establish respectively the WTO Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices [ADP] and special rules for WTO dispute settlement relating to anti-dumping matters. Article 18 in Part III contains the final provisions. Annex I provides procedures for conducting on-the-spot investigations while Annex II imposes constraints on the use of best information available in cases where interested parties insufficiently cooperate in the investigation.

1.4 Actionable Forms of Dumping

GATT 1947 applied only to goods which implied that dumping of services was not covered. Indeed, the General Agreement on Trade in Services, negotiated during the Uruguay Round, does not contain provisions with respect to dumping or anti-dumping measures.

It has furthermore long been accepted that neither Article VI (nor the ADA) cover exchange rate dumping, social dumping, environmental dumping or freight dumping.

On the other hand, the reasons why companies dump are considered irrelevant as long as the technical definitions are met: Dumping may therefore equally cover predatory dumping,¹ cyclical dumping,² market expansion dumping,³ state-trading dumping⁴ and strategic dumping.⁵

Conceptually, the calculation of dumping is a comparison between the export price and a benchmark price, the normal value of the like product. Depending on the circumstances in the domestic market, this normal value can be calculated in various manners as shown in Section 2 below.

1.5 Like Product

Article 2.6 ADA

The term like product ('produit similaire') is defined in Article 2.6 ADA as a product, which is identical, *i.e.* alike in all respects, to the product under consideration, or in the absence of such a product, another product, which has characteristics closely resembling those of the product under consideration. This definition is strict and may be contrasted, for example, with the broader term 'like or directly competitive products' in the Safeguards Agreement. In the context of the ADA, the term is relevant for both the dumping and injury determination.

Typical like product might be, for example, polyester staple fibres, stainless steel plates, or colour televisions [CTVs]. Such products can often⁶ be classified within a Harmonized System⁷ heading. Thus, polyester staple fibres fall under HS heading 55.03, stainless steel plates fall under HS heading 72.19 and CTVs under HS heading 85.28.

However, within the like product, there will invariably be many types or models. To give a simple example, in the case of CTVs, CTVs with different screen sizes (14", 20", 24") will constitute different models. Similarly, in the case of stainless steel plates, plates of different thickness would be different types. While many variations are possible, the underlying principle is that the comparison must be as precise as possible. Consequently, a variation that has an appreciable impact on the price or the cost of a product would normally be treated as a different model or type. For calculation purposes, authorities will then normally compare identical or very similar models or types.

1.6 Forms of Injury

In order to impose anti-dumping measures, an authority must determine not only that dumping is occurring, but also that such dumping is causing material injury to the domestic industry producing the like product. Material injury in this context comprises present material injury, future injury (threat of material injury) and material retardation of the establishment of a domestic industry. These concepts are explained in Section 3.

¹ *Dumping in order to drive competitors out of business and establish a monopoly.*

² *Selling at low prices because of over-capacity due to a downturn in demand.*

³ *Selling at a lower price for export than domestically in order to gain market share.*

⁴ *Selling at low prices in order to earn hard currency.*

⁵ *Dumping by benefiting from an overall strategy which includes both low export pricing and maintaining a closed home market in order to reap monopoly or oligopoly profits.*

⁶ *Depending on the product definition, however, the product under investigation may sometimes cover several HS headings while at other times it may need to be defined further because the HS heading is too broad.*

⁷ *Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, developed by the World Customs Organization in Brussels.*

1.7 Investigation Periods

In order to calculate dumping and injury margins, the importing Member authorities will select an investigation period [IP]. This is often the one-year period, preceding the month or quarter in which the case has been initiated. Some jurisdictions, however, use shorter investigation periods, for example, six months. Extremely detailed cost and pricing data will need to be provided for this investigation period. On top of that, an injury investigation period [IIP], detailed in Section 3 below, will be selected, in order to determine whether the dumping has caused injury.

1.8 Test Your Understanding

1. **Under the WTO, are companies allowed to dump their products in export markets?**
2. **A domestic industry of a WTO Member alleges that the currency depreciation of another WTO Member allows the exporters of that Member to sell at dumped prices. Assuming that the other conditions have been satisfied, can the WTO Member initiate an anti-dumping investigation?**
3. **A company argues that it dumped because of a downturn in the business cycle. In other words, it did not intend to cause injury to the domestic industry in the importing country. Will this defence be accepted?**
4. **A domestic industry argues that while its financial situation is all right for the moment, it fears that dumped imports may cause it injury in the future. Is the importing country Government allowed to start an anti-dumping case on this basis?**
5. **Can coffee producers in a WTO Member bring an anti dumping complaint against dumping by tea producers from another WTO Member?**

2. THE DETERMINATION OF DUMPING

This section reviews the dumping determination in detail. It analyses concepts such as export price and normal value. It also addresses the need for a fair comparison as well as comparison methods between the two. The section concludes with several calculation examples designed to show how dumping margins are computed.

2.1 Overview of Article 2

Article 2 of the ADA covers the determination of dumping. While Article 2 is lengthy, it sets out basic principles and leaves discretion to WTO Members with respect to implementation.

“normal value”

Article 2.1 provides that a product is to be considered as being dumped, *i.e.* introduced into the commerce of another country at less than its normal value, if the export price of the product exported from one country to another is less than the comparable price, in the ordinary course of trade, for the like product when destined for consumption in the exporting country. This is the standard situation.

Article 2.2 sets out alternatives for calculating normal value in cases when there are no sales of the like product in the ordinary course of trade in the domestic market of the exporting country or when, because of the particular market situation or the low volume of the sales in the domestic market of the exporting country, such sales do not permit a proper comparison.

“export price”

Article 2.3 covers the construction of the export price.

Article 2.4 contains detailed rules for making a fair comparison between export price and normal value.

Article 2.5 deals with transshipments.

Article 2.6 defines the like product.

Last, Article 2.7 confirms the applicability of the second supplementary provision to paragraph 1 of Article VI in Annex I to GATT 1994, the so-called non-market economy provision.

Panel Report, Thailand-H-Beams

Article 2 contains multiple obligations relating to the various components that enter into the complex process of determining the existence of dumping and calculating the dumping margin.⁸

⁸Panel Report, *Thailand – Anti-Dumping Duties on Angles, Shapes and sections of Iron or Non-Alloy Steel and H-Beams from Poland, (Thailand - H-Beams)*, WT/DS122/R para. 7.35.

2.2 The Export Price

According to Article 2.1 ADA, the export price is the price at which the product is exported from one country to another. In other words, it is the transaction price at which the product is sold by a producer/exporter in the exporting country to an importer in the importing country. This price is normally indicated in export documentation, such as the commercial invoice, the bill of lading and the letter of credit. It is this price that is allegedly dumped and for which an appropriate normal value must be found in order to determine whether dumping in fact is taking place.

In some cases, the export price may not be reliable. Thus, where the exporter and the importer are related, the price between them may be unreliable because of transfer pricing reasons.

“constructed export price”

Article 2.3 ADA provides that the export price then may be constructed on the basis of the price at which the imported products are first resold to an independent buyer. In such cases, allowances for costs, duties and taxes, incurred between importation and resale, and for profits accruing, should be made in accordance with Article 2.4 ADA. Such allowances decrease the export price, increasing the likelihood of a dumping finding.

This was an important reason for a WTO Panel to interpret the relevant part of Article 2.4 restrictively.

Panel Report, US- Stainless Steel

The term “should” in its ordinary meaning generally is non-mandatory, i.e., its use in this sentence indicates that a Member is not required to make allowance for costs and profits when constructing an export price. We believe that, because the failure to make allowance for costs and profits could only result in a higher export price – and thus a lower dumping margin – the ADAgreement merely permits, but does not require, that such allowances be made.

...we view this sentence as providing an authorization to make certain specific allowances. We therefore consider that allowances not within the scope of that authorization cannot be made.⁹

2.3 Normal Value

2.3.1 Standard Situation: Domestic Price

Article 2.1 provides that a product is dumped if the export price of the product exported from one country to another is less than the comparable price, in the ordinary course of trade, for the like product when destined for consumption in the exporting country. This is the standard situation: the normal value is the

⁹Panel Report, United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Stainless Steel Plate in Coils and Stainless Steel Sheet and Strip from Korea (US – Stainless Steel), WT/DS179/R, paras. 6.93-6.94 footnotes omitted.

price of the like product, in the ordinary course of trade, in the home market of the exporting Member.

This definition presupposes that there are in fact domestic sales of the like product and that such sales are made in the ordinary course of trade. In this context, it is important to remember that, in the first stage, comparisons are made between identical or closely resembling models and that only later one weighted average dumping margin is calculated per producer/exporter. Thus, in the first stage, each exported model is matched to a domestic model, where possible, in order to determine whether a domestic price in the ordinary course of trade exists.

If this is found to be the case and if, for example, the domestic price of a model is 100 and its export price is 80, the *dumping amount* is 20 and the *dumping margin* is $20/80 \times 100 = 25\%$.¹⁰

2.3.2 Alternatives: Third Country Exports or Constructed Normal Value

Article 2.2 ADA

Article 2.2 provides that when there are no sales of the like product in the ordinary course of trade in the domestic market of the exporting country or when, because of the particular market situation or the low volume of sales in the domestic market of the exporting country, such sales do not permit a proper comparison, the dumping margin shall be determined by comparison with a comparable price of the like product when exported to an appropriate third country, provided that the price is representative, or with the cost of production in the country of origin plus a reasonable amount of administrative, selling and general costs and for profits.

In other words, Article 2.2 envisages three special situations and provides two alternative methods for calculating normal value in such cases (often called: third country exports and constructed normal value). Some of these are further explained below.

Situation 1: No domestic sales in the ordinary course of trade.

It may occur that different models are sold in the domestic and the export markets. In the case of CTVs, for example, some countries have the PAL/SECAM system while other countries use the NTSC system. Authorities may then decide that CTVs with different systems cannot be compared.

It is also possible that there are no domestic sales *in the ordinary course of trade*, notably because domestic sales (either of the like product or of certain types) are sold at a loss.

Situation 2: Unrepresentative volume of domestic sales; five per cent rule

¹⁰ In order to calculate the dumping margin, most countries divide the dumping amount by the CIF export price because any anti-dumping duties imposed will be levied at the CIF level.

It may also happen that a producer does not sell the like product on the domestic market in representative quantities.

Footnote 2 ADA

Sales of the like product destined for consumption in the domestic market of the exporting country shall normally be considered a sufficient quantity for the determination of the normal value if such sales constitute 5 per cent or more of the sales of the product under consideration to the importing Member; provided that a lower ratio should be acceptable where the evidence demonstrates that domestic sales at such lower ratio are nonetheless of sufficient magnitude to provide for a proper comparison.

“home market viability test”

Thus, authorities will generally have to decide whether domestic sales of both the like product and individual models represent five per cent or more of the export sales to the importing Member (at this stage sales below cost are included). This is sometimes called the home market viability test. If this is not the case, an alternative normal value must be found, either for the like product or for specific models.

2.3.3 Second Alternative Method: Constructed Normal Value

In dumping investigations, importing Member authorities routinely request both price and cost information in order to check whether domestic sales are made below cost. A WTO Panel has upheld this practice.

Panel Report, Guatemala-Cement II

...Nothing in those provisions prevents an investigating authority from requesting cost information, even if the applicant does not allege sales below cost.¹¹

Most companies produce several products. Furthermore, costs must be calculated on a type-by-type basis. Cost calculations therefore invariably include cost *allocations*. Suppose, for example, that the product under investigation is polyester staple fibres [PSF]. The main raw materials used in the production of PSF are PTA (purified terephthalic acid) and MEG (mono ethylene glycol), which may be manufactured by the same producers. Producers of PSF may also produce other items such as partially oriented yarn and polyester textured yarn. These are all different products, but they may be produced in the same factory. PSF itself in turn can be broken down in various types, for example, on the basis of quality, denier, decitex, lustre, and silicon treatment. Each combination of these would constitute a separate type.

Allocation of costs is not only complex, but also may involve corporate choices, with which the investigating authority may not necessarily agree. In principle, however, the records of the producer under investigation prevail.

¹¹Panel Report, *Guatemala - Anti-Dumping Measures on Grey Portland Cement from Mexico (Guatemala-Cement II)*, WT/DS156/R, para. 8.183.

Article 2.2.1.1 ADA

...costs shall normally be calculated on the basis of records kept by the exporter or producer under investigation, provided that such records are in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles of the exporting country and reasonably reflect the costs associated with the production and sale of the product under consideration. Authorities shall consider all available evidence on the proper allocation of costs, including that which is made available by the exporter or producer in the course of the investigation provided that such allocations have been historically utilized by the exporter or producer, in particular in relation to establishing appropriate amortization and depreciation periods and allowances for capital expenditures and other development costs.

Article 2.2 distinguishes three elements of constructed normal value:

- cost of production;
- reasonable amount for administrative, selling and general costs (often called SGA);
- reasonable amount for profits.

With respect to the calculation of the latter two cost elements, Article 2.2.2 sets out various possibilities.

Article 2.2.2. ADA

For the purpose of paragraph 2, the amounts for administrative, selling and general costs and for profits shall be based on actual data pertaining to production and sales in the ordinary course of trade of the like product by the exporter or producer under investigation. When such amounts cannot be determined on this basis, the amounts may be determined on the basis of:

- (i) the actual amounts incurred and realized by the exporter or producer in question in respect of production and sales in the domestic market of the country of origin of the same general category of products;*
- (ii) the weighted average of the actual amounts incurred and realized by other exporters or producers subject to investigation in respect of production and sales of the like product in the domestic market of the country of origin;*
- (iii) any other reasonable method, provided that the amount for profit so established shall not exceed the profit normally realized by other exporters or producers on sales of products of the same general category in the domestic market of the country of origin.*

“ordinary course of trade”

It is important to note that the qualifier ‘ordinary course of trade’ in the chapeau of Article 2.2.2 is not repeated in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iii). The Appellate Body has held in *EC-Bed Linen* that, as a result, it cannot be read into sub-paragraph (ii). In the same case, the Appellate Body further ruled that Article 2.2.2(ii) cannot be invoked in situations where there is only one producer/exporter with domestic sales.

**Appellate Body
Report, EC- Bed Linen**

...Reading into the text of Article 2.2.2(ii) a requirement provided for in the chapeau of Article 2.2.2 is not justified either by the text or by the context of Article 2.2.2(ii)....

Therefore, we reverse the finding of the Panel in paragraph 6.87 of the Panel Report that, in calculating the amount for profits under Article 2.2.2(ii) of the Anti-Dumping Agreement, a Member may exclude sales by other exporters or producers that are not made in the ordinary course of trade.¹²

**Appellate Body
Report, EC- Bed Linen**

...To us, the use of the phrase “weighted average” in Article 2.2.2(ii) makes it impossible to read “other exporters or producers” as “one exporter or producer”. First of all, and obviously, an “average” of amounts for SG&A and profits cannot be calculated on the basis of data on SG&A and profits relating to only one exporter or producer. Moreover, the textual directive to “weight” the average further supports this view because the “average” which results from combining the data from different exporters or producers must reflect the relative importance of these different exporters or producers in the overall mean. In short, it is simply not possible to calculate the “weighted average” relating to only one exporter or producer. Indeed, we note that, at the oral hearing in this appeal, the European Communities conceded that the phrase “weighted average” envisages a situation where there is more than one exporter or producer.¹³

2.3.4 Special Situations

“sales below cost”

Where domestic sales of the like product and comparable models are representative, it often happens that *some* domestic sales are sold below cost of production. Article 2.2.1 provides that such sales below cost may be treated as not being ‘in the ordinary course of trade’ and may be disregarded, *i.e.* excluded from the normal value calculation, only where the investigating authorities determine that such sales are made within an extended period of time in substantial quantities at prices which do not provide for the recovery of all costs within a reasonable period of time. In practice, sales below cost are often excluded where the weighted average selling prices is below the weighted average per unit costs or where they represent more than 20 per cent of the quantity of total domestic sales of the models concerned. Exclusion of sales below cost will increase the normal value and thereby makes a finding of dumping more likely, as the example below shows. In this example the full cost of production is 50:

Date	Quantity	Normal value	Export price
1/8	10	40	50
10/8	10	100	100
15/8	10	150	150
20/8	10	200	200

¹² Appellate Body Report, *European Communities – Anti-Dumping Duties on Imports of Cotton-Type Bed Linen from India (EC-Bed Linen)*, WT/DS141/AB/R, paras. 83-84.

¹³ Appellate Body Report, *EC-Bed Linen*, para. 74, footnote omitted.

In this example, involving four sales transactions of 10 units each, the domestic sales transaction made on 1 August at a price of 40 is lower than the cost of 50. As it represents 25 per cent of domestic sales (> 20 per cent), it may be excluded. As a result, the average normal value becomes $(100+150+200/3=)$ 150. The average export price is $(50+100+150+200/4=)$ 125. Therefore, the dumping amount is 25 and the dumping margin is 20 per cent. If, on the other hand, the domestic sale of 40 would have been included, the average normal value would have been 122.5 and no dumping would have been found.

2.3.5 *Related Party Sales on the Domestic Market*

“related party”

It may happen that domestic producers and distributors are related. Some WTO Members will then ignore the prices charged by the producer to the distributor on the ground that they are not arms’ length transactions. Instead, they base normal value on the sales made by the distributor to the first independent customer. This price will be higher and is therefore more likely to lead to a finding of dumping.

In *US – Hot-Rolled Steel*, the Appellate Body considered the practice a permissible interpretation and reversed the Panel finding that it could find no legal basis for this practice in the ADA. However, the Appellate Body cautioned that in such cases special care must be taken to effect a fair comparison.

Appellate Body Report, US – Hot-Rolled Steel

The use of downstream sales prices to calculate normal value may affect the comparability of normal value and export price because, for instance, the downstream sales may have been made at a different level of trade from the export sales. Other factors may also affect the comparability of prices, such as the payment of additional sales taxes on downstream sales, and the costs and profits of the reseller. Thus, we believe that when investigating authorities decide to use downstream sales to independent buyers to calculate normal value, they come under a particular duty to ensure the fairness of the comparison because it is more than likely that downstream sales will contain additional price components which could distort the comparison.¹⁴

“transhipments”

In the typical situation, a product is exported from country A to country B. However, it is possible that more than two countries are involved in the product flow. Article 2.5 ADA deals with this situation. The basic rule is that where products are not imported directly from the *country of origin* but are exported from an intermediate country, the export price shall normally be compared with the comparable price in the *country of export* (country of transhipment).

By way of exception, Article 2.5 nevertheless allows a comparison with the price in the *country of origin*, if, for example, the products are merely transhipped through the country of export, such products are not produced in the country of export, or there is no comparable price for them in the country of export.

¹⁴ Appellate Body Report, *United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Products from Japan (US – Hot-Rolled Steel)*, WT/DS184/AB/R, para. 168.

2.4 Non-market Economy Dumping/Surrogate Country

GATT 1994, which was originally negotiated in 1947, contains a footnote to Article VI.

**Second
Supplementary
Provision to paragraph
1.2 of Article VI GATT
1947**

It is recognized that, in the case of imports from a country which has a complete or substantially complete monopoly of its trade and where all domestic prices are fixed by the State, special difficulties may exist in determining price comparability for the purposes of paragraph 1, and in such cases importing contracting parties may find it necessary to take into account the possibility that a strict comparison with domestic prices in such a country may not always be appropriate

This provision has formed the basis for some GATT/WTO Members not to accept prices or costs in non-market economies as an appropriate basis for the calculation of normal value on the ground that such prices and costs are controlled by the Government and therefore not subject to market forces. The investigating authority will then resort to prices or costs in a third - market economy - country as the basis for normal value. This means that export prices from the non-market economy to the importing Member will be compared with prices or costs in this *surrogate/analogue country*.

**“surrogate/ analogue
country”**

It may be noted that for several systemic reasons the surrogate country concept tends to lead to findings of high dumping. To give an example: producers in the surrogate country will be competing in the market place with the non-market economy exporters and it is therefore not in their interest to minimize a possible finding of dumping for their non-market economy competitors.

2.5 Fair Comparison and Allowances

Article 2.4 ADA

Article 2.4 lays down as key principle that a fair comparison shall be made between export price and the normal value. This comparison shall be made at the same level of trade, normally the ex-factory level, and in respect of sales made at as nearly as possible the same time. The ex-factory price is the price of a product at the moment that it leaves the factory. Thus, Article 2.4 envisages that costs incurred after that be deducted to the extent that they are included in the price.

If, for example, an export sale is made on a CIF basis, this means that the seller pays for the inland freight in the exporting country, ocean freight and insurance. Thus, these costs are included in the export price and must therefore be deducted to return to the ex factory level. If, on the other hand, the terms of the sale are ex-factory, no deduction will need to be made because the price is already at an ex-factory level.

Article 2.4 goes on to require that due allowance shall be made in each case, on its merits, for differences which affect price comparability, including

differences in conditions and terms of sale, taxation, levels of trade, quantities, physical characteristics, and any other differences which are also demonstrated to affect price comparability.

It must be emphasized that the wording of Article 2.4 is open-ended and requires allowance for *any* difference demonstrated to affect price comparability.

“net back”

The calculation examples provided at the end of this section explain in more detail how importing Member authorities may *net back* a market price to an ex-factory price.

2.6 Comparison Methods

Where multiple domestic and export transactions exist, as will normally be the case, the question arises how these transactions must be compared with each other. This issue is addressed by Article 2.4.2 ADA. Article 2.4.2 contemplates two basic rules and one exception.

2.6.1 Main Rules

In principle, prices in the two markets should be compared on a weighted average to weighted average basis or on a transaction-to-transaction basis. A calculation example may be helpful. Assume the following:

Date	Normal value	Export price
1 January	50	50
8 January	100	100
15 January	150	150
21 January	200	200

Under the weighted average method, the weighted average normal value ($500/4=125$) is compared with the weighted average export price (*idem*), as a result of which the dumping amount is zero.

Under the transaction-to-transaction method, domestic and export transactions which took place on or near the same date will be compared with each other. In the perfectly symmetrical example above, the transactions on 1 January will be compared with each other and so on. Again, the dumping amount will be zero.

2.6.2 Exception

Exceptionally, weighted average normal value may be compared to prices of individual export transactions if the authorities find a pattern of export prices which differ significantly among different purchasers, regions or time periods,

and if an explanation is provided as to why such differences cannot be taken into account appropriately by the use of one of the two principal methods.

If we apply the exceptional method to the example above, the result will be quite different:

Date	Normal value WA basis	Export price T-by-T	Dumping amount
1 January	125	50	75
8 January	125	100	25
15 January	125	150	-25
21 January	125	200	-75

“zeroing”

Thus, there is a positive dumping amount of 100 (75 and 25 on the first two transactions) and a negative dumping amount of 100 (-25 and -75 on the last two transactions). The negative dumping occurs because the export price is actually higher than the normal value. If the negative dumping can be used to offset the positive dumping amount, no dumping will be found to exist. However, it has been the practice of some WTO Members not to allow such offset and to attribute a zero value to negatively dumped transactions. This is known as the practice of *zeroing*. As a result of application of this method, in the example above the dumping amount will be 100 and the dumping margin: $100/500 \times 100 = 20\%$.

Article 2.4.2 ADA

Use of this method implies that if just one transaction is dumped, dumping will be found.¹⁵ The method therefore facilitates dumping findings. Prior to the conclusion of the Uruguay Round, it was standard practice of some WTO Members to apply this method.¹⁶ Because of pressure exerted by other WTO Members, Article 2.4.2 was adopted and WTO Members generally resorted to use of the weighted average method (the first of the two main rules).

However, within the weighted average method, some WTO Members applied a new type of zeroing: *inter-model zeroing*. If, for example, model A was dumped while model B was not dumped, the Members would not allow the negative dumping of model B to offset the positive dumping of model A. In *EC-Bed Linen*, the Appellate Body upheld the Panel finding that this practice was inconsistent with Article 2.4.2:

Appellate Body Report, EC – Bed Linen

Under this method, the investigating authorities are required to compare the weighted average normal value with the weighted average of prices of all comparable export transactions. Here, we emphasize that Article 2.4.2 speaks of “all” comparable export transactions. ...By “zeroing” the “negative

¹⁵ If, on the other hand, all transactions are dumped, the weighted average method and the weighted average to transaction-to-transaction method will yield the same result. This, however, is relatively rare.

¹⁶ The EC practice was challenged unsuccessfully in the GATT by Japan in EC-ATCs, Panel Report, EC – Anti-Dumping Duties on Audio Tapes in Cassettes Originating in Japan, ADP/136 issued 28 April 1955, *unadopted*.

dumping margins”, the European Communities, therefore, did not take fully into account the entirety of the prices of some export transactions, namely, those export transactions involving models of cotton-type bed linen where “negative dumping margins” were found. Instead, the European Communities treated those export prices as if they were less than what they were. This, in turn, inflated the result from the calculation of the margin of dumping. Thus, the European Communities did not establish “the existence of margins of dumping” for cotton-type bed linen on the basis of a comparison of the weighted average normal value with the weighted average of prices of all comparable export transactions – that is, for all transactions involving all models or types of the product under investigation. Furthermore, we are also of the view that a comparison between export price and normal value that does not take fully into account the prices of all comparable export transactions – such as the practice of “zeroing” at issue in this dispute – is not a “fair comparison” between export price and normal value, as required by Article 2.4 and by Article 2.4.2.¹⁷

In *US-Stainless Steel*¹⁸, the Panel ruled that the United States’ use of multiple averaging periods in the *Plate* and *Sheet* investigations was inconsistent with the requirement of Article 2.4.2 to compare a weighted average normal value with a weighted average of all comparable export transactions. The United States had divided the investigation period for the purpose of calculating the overall margin of dumping into two averaging periods to take into account the Republic of Korea’s won devaluation in the period November-December 1997, corresponding to the pre- and post-devaluation periods. The United States had calculated a margin of dumping for each sub-period. When combining the margins of dumping calculated for the sub-periods to determine an overall margin of dumping for the entire investigation period, the DOC¹⁹ had treated the period November-December, where the average export price was higher than the average normal value, as a sub-period of zero dumping—where in fact there was *negative dumping* in that sub-period. The Panel concluded that this was not allowed under Article 2.4.2—although the Article did not prohibit multiple averaging as such; multiple averaging could be appropriate in cases where it would be necessary to insure that comparability is not affected by differences in the timing of sales within the averaging periods in the home and export markets.

2.7 Simplified Calculation Examples

The operation of these complicated rules is illustrated by the following simple calculation examples.

¹⁷ Appellate Body Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 55.

¹⁸ Panel Report, US-Stainless Steel, paras. 6.105-6.125

¹⁹ Throughout the Panel Report DOC is used to refer to the “United States Department of Commerce”.

Example 1: Direct sale to unrelated customers

Normal value	Export price
Producer X → unrelated customer	Producer X → unrelated importer
Sales price: 100	CIF sales price: 100
- duty drawback: 5	- physical difference: 5
- discounts: 2	- discounts: 2
- packing: 1	- packing: 1
- inland freight: 1	- inland freight: 1
	- ocean freight/insurance: 6
- credit: 5	- credit: 2
- guarantees: 2	- guarantees: 2
- commissions: 2	- commissions: 2
= ex-factory normal value: 82	= ex-factory export price: 79

The dumping margin is: $(82-79/100 \times 100) = 3\%$. This example illustrates that while the domestic and export *sales prices* are the same, there is nevertheless a dumping margin because the *ex factory* export price is lower than the *ex factory* normal value.

Example 2: Direct sale to unrelated customers

Normal value	Export price
Producer X → unrelated customer	Producer X → unrelated importer
Sales price: 100	CIF sales price: 100
- duty drawback: 5	- physical difference: 5
- discounts: 5	- discounts: 2
- packing: 1	- packing: 1
- inland freight: 1	- inland freight: 1
	- ocean freight/insurance: 6
- credit: 6	- credit: 1
- guarantees: 2	- guarantees: 2
- commissions: 2	- commissions: 2
= ex-factory normal value: 78	= ex-factory export price: 80

The dumping margin on this transaction is: $(78-80/100 \times 100) = -2$. Invoking the exception of Article 2.4.2, last sentence, some countries may not give credit for the *negative* dumping in the computation of the weighted average dumping margin, and attribute a zero value to it (zeroing). However, the CIF price will be taken into account in the denominator of the calculation of the weighted average dumping margin.

Example 3: Construction of export price

Normal value	Export price
X → unrelated customer 140	X → related importer → unrelated retailer 100 140
- duty drawback: 5	- discounts subs.: 5
- discounts subs.: 5	- inland freight subs.: 0.5
- inland freight subs.: 0.5	- credit by subs.: 2
- packing: 1	- guarantees by subs.: 2
- credit.: 4	- net SGA subs.: 17 (12.14%)
- guarantees: 2	- reasonable profit subs. (5%): 7
- level of trade: 24 (17.14%)	- customs duties paid by subs.: 8.2
	- constructed EP: <u>98.3</u>
	- ocean freight/insurance: 6
	- inland freight: 1
	- packing: 1
	- physical difference: 5
= ex-factory normal value: 98.5	= ex-factory export price: 85.3

The dumping margin on this transaction is: $(98.5-85.3/100 \times 100) = 13.2\%$.

In this calculation example, we have made an adjustment on the normal value side for a difference in the level of trade equal to 17.14 per cent or 24. Such a difference in levels of trade exists because the producer sells in both his domestic market and his export market to retailers. In the export market, his importer acts as a distributor. In the domestic market, however, the producer performs the distributor function in-house. An adjustment must be made for his indirect costs and profits relating to this function because, on the export side, the same costs and profits are deducted in the process of constructing the export price. The example assumes that, as the functions are the same in

both markets, the costs and profits will be the same too (12.14 per cent and five per cent). In reality, the situation is often more complex and the level of trade adjustments may give rise to heated arguments with claims sometimes being rejected on evidentiary grounds.

In *US-Hot-Rolled Steel*, the Appellate Body emphasized in a comparable case involving domestic sales through an affiliate distributor that allowances must be made with extra care in order to effectively calculate the normal value at the ex-factory level and ensure fair comparison.

**Article 2.4, in fine,
ADA**

If...price comparability has been affected, the authorities shall establish the normal value at a level of trade equivalent to the level of trade of the constructed export price, or shall make due allowance as warranted under this paragraph. The authorities shall indicate to the parties in question what information is necessary to ensure a fair comparison and shall not impose an unreasonable burden of proof on those parties.

Last, it is noted that the ADA does not provide guidelines for calculating the ‘reasonable profit’ of the related importer.

2.8 Test Your Understanding.

- 1. A WTO Member initiates an anti-dumping investigation in which it only analyses price dumping. In other words, it does not examine cost dumping. Is this allowed?**
- 2. A WTO Member decides to treat a non-market economy country as a market economy for purposes of its anti-dumping law and practice. Can it do so under the WTO?**
- 3. In order to avoid taxation in the importing Member a multinational company sells to its related party in the importing country at an artificially high price. How can an investigating authority solve this problem?**
- 4. An export-oriented company has only minimal sales in its home market. Can such sales be used as the basis for normal value? Are there alternative manners in which normal value may be established?**
- 5. A company sells in its domestic market to a related distributor for a price of 100. The related distributor sells to a related retailer for a price of 140. The retailer sells to an (unrelated) end-user for a price of 190. Which price should an investigating authority use? Which allowances, if any, should be made?**

3. THE DETERMINATION OF INJURY

The determination of injury consists of a determination that the dumped imports have caused material injury to the domestic industry producing the like product.

3.1 Overview of Article 3

Article 3.1 is an introductory paragraph providing that the injury determination shall be based on positive evidence and involve an objective examination of both (a) the volume of the dumped imports and the effect of the dumped imports on prices in the domestic market for like products and (b) the consequent impact of these imports on the domestic producers of such products.

Article 3.2 provides more details on the analysis of the volume factor and the price factor.

Article 3.3 establishes the conditions for cumulation.

Article 3.4 provides the list of injury factors that must be evaluated by the investigating authority.

Article 3.5 lays down the framework for the causation analysis, including a listing of possible ‘other known factors.’

Article 3.6 contains the product line exception.

Articles 3.7 and 3.8 provide special rules for a determination of threat of material injury.

3.2 The Notion of ‘Dumped Imports’

Throughout Article 3, the notion of ‘dumped imports’ is used. However, many cases involve a mixture of dumped and non-dumped transactions. Furthermore, dumping determinations are normally made on a producer-by-producer basis and it is therefore possible that certain producers are found not to have dumped. A conceptual issue therefore is whether such non-dumped imports may be treated as dumped in the injury analysis. In the *EC-Bed Linen* case, India argued that non-dumped transactions ought to be excluded from the injury analysis.

The Panel did not agree that the ADA required such specificity, but in an important *obiter dictum* opined that imports from producers found not to have dumped, should not be included in the injury analysis.

**Panel Report, EC-Bed
Linen**

*...It is possible that a calculation conducted consistently with the AD Agreement would lead to the conclusion that one or another Indian producer should be attributed a zero or de minimis margin of dumping. In such a case, it is our view that the imports attributable to such a producer/exporter may not be considered as “dumped” for purposes of injury analysis. However, we lack legal competence to make a proper calculation and consequent determination of dumping for any of the Indian producers – its task is to review the determination of the EC authorities, not to replace that determination, where found to be inconsistent with the AD Agreement, with our own determination. In any event, we lack the necessary data to undertake such a calculation. Thus, while the treatment of imports attributable to producers or exporters found to **not** be dumping is an interesting question, it is not an issue before us and we reach no conclusions in this regard.²⁰*

3.3 The Like Product/Product Line Exception

Section 1 explains that the definition of the like product plays a role in both the dumping and the injury determination because it is with respect to this product that dumping and injury must be established.

Article 3.6 ADA

As an exception to the principle that it must be established that the domestic industry producing the *like product* must suffer injury by reason of the dumped imports, Article 3.6 provides that when available data do not permit the separate identification of the domestic production of the like product on the basis of such criteria as the production process, producers’ sales and profits, the effects of the dumped imports shall be assessed by the examination of the production of the narrowest group or range of products, which includes the like product, for which the necessary information can be provided. This is sometimes called the *product line* exception.

Suppose, for example, that the domestic industry brings an anti-dumping complaint against fresh cut red roses. It is possible that in such a case the domestic industry does not maintain specific data with regard to production processes, sales and profits of this product, but only with respect to the broader category of all fresh cut roses. In such a case, Article 3.6 would permit the investigating authority to assess the effects of the dumped imports with respect to all fresh cut roses.

3.4 The Domestic Industry

Article 4 ADA

Article 4 ADA defines the domestic industry as the domestic producers as a whole of the like products or those of them whose collective output of the products constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of those products. The ADA does not define the term ‘a major proportion.’

²⁰ Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, WT/DS141/R, para. 6.138.

There are two exceptions to this principle.

First, where domestic producers are related to exporters or importers or themselves import the dumped products, they *may* be excluded from the definition of the domestic industry under Article 4.1(i). Such producers may benefit from the dumping and therefore may distort the injury analysis. Exclusion is a discretionary decision of the importing Member authorities for which the ADA does not provide further guidance.

If for example, an investigation is initiated against PSF and that one of the targeted foreign producers has also established a factory in the importing Member, thereby qualifying as a domestic producer. This domestic producer might be opposed to imposition of anti-dumping measures on its related company and could therefore, for example, take the position that it is not injured by the dumped exports. Article 4.1(i) allows the investigating authority to exclude this producer from the injury analysis.

Second, a regional industry comprising only producers in a certain market of a Member's territory may be found to exist under Article 4.1(ii) if these producers sell all or almost all of their production in that market and the demand within that market is not to any substantial degree supplied by producers of the product located elsewhere in the territory. Injury may then be found even where a major portion of the total domestic industry is not injured, provided that there is a concentration of dumped imports into the isolated market and the dumped imports are causing injury to the producers of all or almost all of the production in that market. If the regional industry exception is used, anti-dumping duties shall be levied only on imports consigned for final consumption to that area. Where this is not allowed under the constitutional law of the importing Member, exporters should be given the opportunity to cease exporting to the area concerned or to give undertakings. Findings of the existence of a regional industry are relatively rare and tend to be confined to industries where transportation is a major cost item, such as, for example, cement.

Last, it is noted that the definition of the domestic industry is closely linked to the standing determination which importing Member authorities must make prior to initiation.

3.5 Material Injury

The determination of material injury must be based on *positive* evidence and involve an *objective* examination of the volume of the dumped imports, their effect on the domestic prices in the importing Member market and their consequent impact on the domestic industry. The Appellate Body has held that this determination may be based on the confidential case file and overruled a panel finding that it follows from the words 'positive' and 'objective' that the injury determination should be based on reasoning or facts disclosed to, or discernible by, the interested parties.

**Appellate Body
Report, Thailand-H-
Beams**

...An anti-dumping investigation involves the commercial behaviour of firms, and, under the provisions of the Anti-Dumping Agreement, involves the collection and assessment of both confidential and non-confidential information. An injury determination conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement must be based on the totality of that evidence. We see nothing in Article 3.1 which limits an investigating authority to base an injury determination only upon non-confidential information... We consider, therefore, that the requirement in Article 3.1 that an injury determination be based on "positive" evidence and involve an "objective" examination of the required elements of injury does not imply that the determination must be based only on reasoning or facts that were disclosed to, or discernible by, the parties to an anti-dumping investigation. Article 3.1, on the contrary, permits an investigating authority making an injury determination to base its determination on all relevant reasoning and facts before it.²¹

However, the Appellate Body emphasized due process rights of interesting parties, emanating from Articles 6 and 12 ADA, against which the injury determination must be scrutinized. These will be discussed in Section 4 below.

3.5.1 Injury Investigation Period

A recommendation of the WTO Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices provides that injury should preferably be analysed over a period of at least three years.²² This period is often called the injury investigation period [IIP]. Such a relatively long period is needed particularly because of the causation requirement.

While the industry must be suffering material injury during the regular investigation period and detailed injury margin calculations in the case of application of a lesser duty rule will be based on the data existing during the regular investigation period, the analysis of injury and causation needs a longer period in order to examine trend factors, such as those mentioned in Articles 3.4 and 3.5 ADA.

3.5.2 Volume and Prices

Article 3.2 ADA

Article 3.2 provides more details on the volume and price analysis. It emphasizes the relevance of a significant increase in dumped imports, either absolute or relative to production or consumption in the importing Member. With regard to the effect of the dumped imports on prices, the investigating authority must consider whether there has been a significant price undercutting by the dumped imports, or whether the effect of the imports has been to significantly depress prices or prevent price increases, which otherwise would have occurred.

²¹ Appellate Body Report, Thailand-H-Beams, WT/DS122/AB/R, paras. 107 and 111.

²² WTO Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices - Recommendation Concerning the Periods of Data Collection for Anti-Dumping Investigations - Adopted by the Committee on 5 May 2000, G/ADP/6

The wording is understandably broad because injury can occur in many forms. Thus, for example, in the typical situation, there will be an absolute increase in the volume of imports over the IIP coupled to a decreasing trend in prices of the imports. Indeed, the simultaneous occurrence of these two trends will be a strong indicator not only of injury but also of causation because it indicates that producers are gaining market share through aggressive pricing.

In many other cases, however, the situation will not be so clear-cut. It is possible, for example, that domestic producers cut back production, while foreign producers continue to export at steady levels. This would mean that the imports increase relative to production (but not in absolute terms). Similarly, with regard to prices, it is possible that, faced with increased costs for raw materials, domestic producers are precluded from increasing prices to pass on the price increase to their customers through the presence in the market of low-priced imports which are sold at the same price as before.

3.5.3 *Cumulation of Dumped Imports from Various Countries*

Article 3.3 ADA

The principle of cumulation, contained in Article 3.3, means that where imports from several countries are simultaneously subject to anti-dumping investigations, their effects may be assessed cumulatively for injury purposes as long as they do not qualify for the *de minimis* or *negligibility* thresholds and a cumulative assessment is appropriate in light of the conditions of competition among the imports and between imports and the like domestic product. Many WTO Members apply cumulation almost as a matter of course as long as the thresholds are not met.

3.5.4 *Examination of the Impact of the Dumped Imports on the Domestic Industry*

Article 3.4 ADA

Article 3.4 requires that the examination of the impact of the dumped imports on the domestic industry shall include an evaluation of all relevant economic factors and indices having a bearing on the state of the industry producing the like product in the importing country and then mentions 15 specific factors. Article 3.4 concludes that this list is not exhaustive and that no single or several of these factors can necessarily give decisive guidance.

The 15 injury factors

Article 3.4 ADA

...actual and potential decline in sales, profits, output, market share, productivity, return on investments, or utilization of capacity; factors affecting domestic prices; the magnitude of the margin of dumping; actual and potential negative effects on cash flow, inventories, employment, wages, growth, ability to raise capital or investments.

The scope of this obligation has been examined in four panel proceedings thus far.²³ All four Panels, strongly supported by the Appellate Body in *Thailand-H-beams*, held that the evaluation of the 15 factors is mandatory in each case and must be clear from the published documents.

**Appellate Body
Report, Thailand-H-
Beams**

...The Panel concluded its comprehensive analysis by stating that “each of the fifteen individual factors listed in the mandatory list of factors in Article 3.4 must be evaluated by the investigating authorities...” We agree with the Panel’s analysis in its entirety, and with the Panel’s interpretation of the mandatory nature of the factors mentioned in Article 3.4 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement.²⁴

**Panel Report, EC-Bed
Linen**

It appears from this listing that data was not even collected for all the factors listed in Article 3.4, let alone evaluated by the EC investigating authorities. Surely a factor cannot be evaluated without the collection of relevant data.²⁵

3.5.5 Threat of Injury

It may occur that a domestic industry alleges that it is not yet suffering material injury, but is threatened with material injury, which will develop into material injury unless anti-dumping measures are taken.

Article 3.7 ADA

However, because such statements are easy to make and any investigation based on threat of material injury will necessarily be speculative because it involves analysis of events that have not yet happened, Article 3.7 offers special provisions for a threat case. Thus, a determination of threat must be based on facts and not merely on allegation, conjecture or remote possibility. The change in circumstances which would create a situation in which the dumping would cause injury, must be clearly foreseen and imminent.

In making a threat determination, the importing Member authorities *should* consider, *inter alia*, four special factors.

**Special threat factors
Article 3.7, ADA**

- (i) a significant rate of increase of dumped imports into the domestic market indicating the likelihood of substantially increased importation;*
- (ii) sufficiently freely disposable, or an imminent, substantial increase in, capacity of the exporter indicating the likelihood of substantially increased dumped exports to the importing Member’s market, taking into account the availability of other export markets to absorb any additional exports;*
- (iii) whether imports are entering at prices that will have a significant depressing or suppressing effect on domestic prices, and would likely increase demand for further imports; and*
- (iv) inventories of the product being investigated.*

²³ Panel Report, Mexico – Anti-Dumping Investigation of High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) from the United States (Mexico – Corn Syrup) WT/DS132/R; Panel Report, Thailand-H-Beams; Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen; Panel Report, Guatemala-Cement II.

²⁴ Appellate Body Report, Thailand-H-Beams, para. 125, footnote omitted.

²⁵ Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 6.167.

No single factor will necessarily be decisive, but the totality of the factors considered must lead to the conclusion that further dumped exports are imminent and that, unless protective action is taken, material injury would occur. The *Mexico – Corn Syrup*²⁶ Panel concluded that a threat analysis must also include evaluation of the Article 3.4 factors.

3.6 Causation/Other Known Factors

The evaluation of import volumes and prices and their impact on the domestic industry is relevant not only for determining whether the domestic industry has in fact suffered material injury, but often will also be indicative of whether the injury has been caused by the dumped imports or by other factors. Thus Article 3.5 ADA, first sentence, refers back to Articles 3.2 and 3.4 ADA.

Article 3.5 ADA

Furthermore, the demonstration of the causal link must be based on an examination of all relevant evidence before the authorities, which must also examine any known factors other than the dumped imports which are also injuring the domestic industry, and the injury as a result of such other known factors must not be attributed to the dumped imports. Article 3.5 then provides a non-exhaustive list of other factors which may be relevant depending on the facts of the case.

The other known factors, Article 3.5 ADA

...the volume and prices of imports not sold at dumping prices, contraction in demand or changes in the patterns of consumption, trade-restrictive practices of and competition between the foreign and domestic producers, developments in technology and the export performance and productivity of the domestic industry.

In *Mexico – Corn Syrup*, for example, the Panel addressed the Mexican authorities' analysis of an alleged restraint agreement between Mexican sugar refiners and soft drink bottlers.

Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup

...the question for purposes of an anti-dumping investigation is not whether an alleged restraint agreement in violation of Mexican law existed, an issue which might well be beyond the jurisdiction of an anti-dumping authority to resolve, but whether there was evidence of and arguments concerning the effect of the alleged restraint agreement, which, if it existed, would be relevant to the analysis of the likelihood of increased dumped imports in the near future. If the latter is the case, in our view, the investigating authority is obliged to consider the effects of such an alleged agreement, assuming it exists.²⁷

A WTO Panel has held that, contrary to the Article 3.4 factors, the Article 3.5 factors need not be examined as a matter of course in each administrative determination. Rather, such examination will depend on the arguments made

²⁶ Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para.7.127.

²⁷ Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para. 7.174. footnote omitted.

by interested parties in the course of the administrative investigation.

**Panel Report,
Thailand-H-Beams**

The text of Article 3.5 refers to “known” factors other than the dumped imports which at the same time are injuring the domestic industry but does not make clear how factors are “known” or are to become “known” to the investigating authorities. We consider that other “known” factors would include those causal factors that are clearly raised before the investigating authorities by interested parties in the course of an AD investigation. We are of the view that there is no express requirement in Article 3.5 that investigating authorities seek out and examine in each case on their own initiative the effects of all possible factors other than imports that may be causing injury to the domestic industry under investigation.²⁸

**Panel Report, Mexico
– Corn Syrup**

While an examination of the Article 3.7 factors is required in a threat of injury case, that analysis alone is not a sufficient basis for a determination of threat of injury, because the Article 3.7 factors do not relate to the consideration of the impact of the dumped imports on the domestic industry....In our view, consideration of the Article 3.4 factors in examining the consequent impact of imports is required in a case involving threat of injury in order to make a determination consistent with the requirements of Articles 3.1 and 3.7.²⁹

3.7 Injury Margins

The determination whether dumping has caused material injury to the domestic industry producing the like product is generally made with respect to the country or countries under investigation. By nature, this is either an affirmative or a negative determination. If the determination is affirmative, WTO Members, which apply a lesser duty rule in accordance with Articles 8.1 and 9.1, will then calculate injury margins.

The ADA does not give any guidance on such calculation and arguably leaves its Members substantial discretion. Injury margins are normally producer-specific, as are dumping margins, and that they will compare the prices of imported and domestically produced like products, focusing on whether the former are undercutting or underselling the latter.

Example 1: Calculation injury margin, based on price undercutting

	Domestic producer X	Foreign exporter Y	Foreign exporter Z
Price	100	80	110
Injury margin		$(100-80=20)/80 \times 100=25\%$	$100-110=-10=0$

²⁸ Panel Report, Thailand - H-Beams, para. 7.273 footnote omitted.

²⁹ Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, paras. 7.126-7.127.

Example 2: Calculation injury margin, based on price underselling

	Domestic producer X	Foreign exporter Y	Foreign exporter Z
Price	100	80	110
Target price	121		
Injury margin		$(121-80=41)/80 \times 100 = 51.25\%$	$(121-110=11)/110 \times 100 = 10\%$

In the second example, it is assumed that the unit cost of domestic producer X actually is 110. Faced with the low-priced imports, however, he has been forced to sell below cost. A target price may be calculated for producer X, comprised of his costs plus a reasonable profit, for example 10 per cent. In the example, the target price will therefore become: $110 + (110 \times 10\% = 11) = 121$.

3.8 Test Your Understanding

- 1. An administering authority investigating injury allegedly caused by dumped tomato imports determines that inventories are not a relevant injury factor for such a highly perishable product and therefore does not evaluate it in the definitive measure. Is this legal?**
- 2. A domestic industry wishes to bring an anti-dumping case against the producers of the like product in another country. However, one of the producers is related to an exporter and opposes the case. Can the investigating authority initiate the case?**
- 3. The investigating authority finds that the volume of dumped imports has consistently decreased during the past three years. Can it nevertheless find that injury has been caused by dumped imports?**
- 4. The investigating authority finds that imports were in fact higher-priced than the products sold by the domestic industry. Can such higher-priced imports cause injury to the domestic industry?**
- 5. In an anti-dumping case involving five exporters, the investigating authority finds that four of them did not dump. The fifth exporter dumped some 50 per cent of its exports while the other 50 per cent was not dumped. In analysing the volume of the dumped imports, which data should the investigating authority use?**

4. THE NATIONAL PROCEDURES

By far the largest portion of the ADA is dedicated to various procedural obligations that authorities wishing to investigate injurious dumping must comply with. This section provides an overview of these procedural obligations that national authorities must comply with throughout the course of an anti-dumping investigation. It also provides a flowchart of the various steps in an anti-dumping investigation. This section discusses due process rights, such as notification, public notices, confidentiality, disclosure of findings and hearings, as well as restrictions on use of facts available. It further analyses the remedies of anti-dumping duties and undertakings and summarizes duty assessment systems.

4.1 Introduction

The following Articles of the ADA contain important procedural provisions:

- Article 5* Initiation and subsequent investigation, including the standing determination
- Article 6* Evidence, including due process rights of interested parties
- Article 7* Provisional measures
- Article 8* Price undertakings
- Article 9* Imposition and collection of anti-dumping duties
- Article 10* Retroactivity
- Article 11* Duration and review of anti-dumping duties and price undertakings, including
- Article 12* Public notice and explanation of determinations, pertaining to initiation, imposition of preliminary and final measures
- Article 13* Judicial review

It falls outside the scope of this volume to discuss these procedural provisions in detail. However, the general tendency of Panels and the Appellate Body has been to interpret these provisions strictly.

The relevant Panel findings in *Guatemala - Cement II* may serve as an example of this because they cover many of the procedural requirements.³⁰

³⁰ *The Appellate Body Report in US - Hot-Rolled Steel and the Panel Report in Argentina – Definitive Measures on Imports of Ceramic Floor Tiles from Italy (Argentina – Ceramic Tiles), WT/DS189/R, offer interesting material on use of facts available.*

**Panel Report,
Guatemala-Cement II**

- (a) Guatemala's determination that there was sufficient evidence of dumping and threat of injury to initiate an investigation, is inconsistent with Article 5.3 of the AD Agreement
- (b) Guatemala's determination that there was sufficient evidence of dumping and threat of injury to initiate an investigation and consequent failure to reject the application for anti-dumping duties by Cementos Progreso is inconsistent with Article 5.8 of the AD Agreement .
- (c) Guatemala's failure to timely notify Mexico under Article 5.5 of the AD Agreement is inconsistent with that provision.
- (d) Guatemala's failure to meet the requirements for a public notice of the initiation of an investigation is inconsistent with Article 12.1.1 of the AD Agreement .
- (e) Guatemala's failure to timely provide the full text of the application to Mexico and Cruz Azul is inconsistent with Article 6.1.3 of the AD Agreement.
- (f) Guatemala's failure to grant Mexico access to the file of the investigation is inconsistent with Articles 6.1.2 and 6.4 of the AD Agreement .
- (g) Guatemala's failure to timely make Cementos Progreso's 19 December 1996 submission available to Cruz Azul until 8 January 1997 is inconsistent with Article 6.1.2 of the AD Agreement .
- (h) Guatemala's failure to provide two copies of the file of the investigation as requested by Cruz Azul is inconsistent with Article 6.1.2 of the AD Agreement.
- (i) Guatemala's extension of the period of investigation requested by Cementos Progreso without providing Cruz Azul with a full opportunity for the defence of its interest is inconsistent with Article 6.2 of the AD Agreement .
- (j) Guatemala's failure to inform Mexico of the inclusion of non-governmental experts in the verification team is inconsistent with paragraph 2 of Annex I of the AD Agreement .
- (k) Guatemala's failure to require Cementos Progreso's to provide a statement of the reasons why summarization of the information submitted during verification was not possible is inconsistent with Article 6.5.1 of the AD Agreement .
- (l) Guatemala's decision to grant Cementos Progreso's 19 December submission confidential treatment on its own initiative is inconsistent with Article 6.5 of the AD Agreement .
- (m) Guatemala's failure to "inform all interested parties of the essential facts under consideration which form the basis for the decision whether to apply definitive measures" is inconsistent with Article 6.9 of the AD Agreement.
- (n) Guatemala's recourse to "best information available" for the purpose of making its final dumping determination is inconsistent with Article 6.8 of the AD Agreement ...³¹

³¹Panel Report, Guatemala-Cement II, para. 9.1.

4.2 Application

Article 5.2 ADA

An anti-dumping case normally starts with the official submission of a written complaint by the domestic industry to the importing Member authorities that injurious dumping is taking place. This complaint is called the application in the ADA. Article 5.2 contains the requirements for the contents of this application. It must include *evidence* on dumping, injury and the causal link between the two; simple assertion is not sufficient. More specifically, to the extent *reasonably available* to the applicant, the application must contain the following information:

Article 5.2(i)-(iv), ADA

- (i) *the identity of the applicant and a description of the volume and value of the domestic production of the like product by the applicant. Where a written application is made on behalf of the domestic industry, the application shall identify the industry on behalf of which the application is made by a list of all known domestic producers of the like product (or associations of domestic producers of the like product) and, to the extent possible, a description of the volume and value of domestic production of the like product accounted for by such producers;*
- (ii) *a complete description of the allegedly dumped product, the names of the country or countries of origin or export in question, the identity of each known exporter or foreign producer and a list of known persons importing the product in question;*
- (iii) *information on prices at which the product in question is sold when destined for consumption in the domestic markets of the country or countries of origin or export (or, where appropriate, information on the prices at which the product is sold from the country or countries of origin or export to a third country or countries, or on the constructed value of the product) and information on export prices or, where appropriate, on the prices at which the product is first resold to an independent buyer in the territory of the importing Member.*
- (iv) *information on the evolution of the volume of the allegedly dumped imports, the effect of these imports on prices of the like product in the domestic market and the consequent impact of the imports on the domestic industry, as demonstrated by relevant factors and indices having a bearing on the state of the domestic industry, such as those listed in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 3.*

4.2.1 Pre-initiation Examination

Article 5.3 ADA

Article 5.3 imposes the obligation on the importing Member authorities to *examine, before* initiation, the accuracy and the adequacy of the evidence in the application. However, as Article 5.3 does not provide any details on the nature of this examination, it is difficult for Panels to judge whether importing Member authorities have complied with Article 5.3.

**Panel Report, Mexico-
Corn Syrup**

*...the quantum and quality of evidence required at the time of initiation is less than that required for a preliminary, or final, determination of dumping, injury, and causation, made after investigation. That is, evidence which would be insufficient, either in quantity or in quality, to justify a preliminary or final determination of dumping, injury or causal link, may well be sufficient to justify initiation of the investigation.³²In our view, Article 5.3 does not impose an obligation on the investigating authority to set out its resolution of **all** underlying issues considered in making that determination.³³*

4.2.2 Standing Determination

Article 5.4 ADA

Under Article 5.4 ADA, importing Member authorities must determine, again *before* initiation, on the basis of an examination of the degree of support for, or opposition to, the application expressed by domestic producers of the like product, that the application has been made by, or on behalf of, the domestic industry. GATT Panels have held several times that the failure to properly determine standing before initiation is a fatal error which cannot be repaired retroactively in the course of the proceeding.

**Panel Report, US –
Seamless Stainless
Steel**

The Panel observed that under Article 5:1 (apart from ‘special circumstances’) an anti-dumping investigation shall normally be initiated upon a written request “by or on behalf of the industry affected”. The plain language in which this provision is worded, and in particular the use of the word “shall”, indicates that this is an essential procedural requirement for the initiation of an investigation to be consistent with the Agreement.....The Panel considered, in light of the nature of Article 5:1 as an essential procedural requirement, that there was no basis to consider that an infringement of this provision could be cured retroactively.³⁴

An application is made by, or on behalf of, the domestic industry of the importing Member if it is supported by those domestic producers whose collective output constitutes more than 50 per cent of the total production of the like product produced by that portion of the domestic industry expressing either support for or opposition to the application. However, no investigation shall be initiated when domestic producers expressly supporting the application account for less than 25 per cent of total production of the like product produced by the domestic industry. These tests are often called the 50 per cent and the 25 per cent test and the following example may explain their operation.

³² *Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para. 7.94, footnote omitted, quoting Panel Report, Guatemala – Anti-Dumping Investigation Regarding Portland Cement from Mexico (Guatemala Cement I), WT/DS60/R, which in turn relied on Panel Report, in United States – Measures Affecting Imports of Soft Lumber from Canada, Report of the Panel adopted by the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures on 27 October 1993 (SCM/162) (US - Softwood Lumber).*

³³ *Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para. 7.102.*

³⁴ *Panel Report, United States-Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Imports of Seamless Stainless Steel Hollow Products from Sweden, August 20, 1990, ADP/47. Compare Panel Report, United States – Anti-Dumping Duties on Grey Portland Cement and Cement Clinker from Mexico, (US - Cement) ADP/82 issued: 7 September 1992, unadopted.*

Example standing tests:

Suppose that there are two domestic producers X and Y, which produce 3,500 and 6,500 tons of the product concerned. Producer X files the application while producer Y neither supports nor opposes the application.

- The 50 per cent test is met because producer X represents 100 per cent of those supporting or opposing the application;
- The 25 per cent test is also met because producer X represents $(3,500:10,000 \times 100) = 35$ per cent of the total production.

If, however, producer Y would have expressed opposition to the application, producer X would not have met the 50 per cent test because in that case he would have represented only 35 per cent of those expressing support or opposing the application.

4.2.3 Notification

Article 5.5 expresses a preference for confidential treatment of applications prior to initiation of an investigation. On the other hand, before initiation, the importing Member authorities must *notify* the government of the exporting Member. The ADA does not contain rules on the form of such notification.

**Panel Report,
Thailand-H-Beams**

...While a written notification might arguably best serve this goal and the promotion of transparency and certainty among Members, and might also provide a written record upon which an importing Member could rely in the event of a subsequent claim of inconsistency with Article 5.5 of the AD Agreement, the text of Article 5.5 does not expressly require that the notification be in writing. We consider that a formal meeting between government officials could satisfy the notification requirement of Article 5.5, provided that the meeting is sufficiently documented to support meaningful review by a panel. For these reasons, we find that the fact that Thailand notified Poland under Article 5.5 orally in the course of a meeting between government officials, rather than in written form, does not render the notification inconsistent with Article 5.5.³⁵

4.2.4 De minimis/Negligibility Thresholds**Article 5.8 ADA**

Article 5.8 provides as a general rule that an application shall be rejected and an investigation terminated *promptly* as soon as the investigating authority is satisfied that there is not sufficient evidence of either dumping or injury to justify proceeding with the case.

Article 5.8 then provides two situations in which termination shall be *immediate*.

³⁵ Panel Report, Thailand - H-Beams, paras. 7.89-7.90, footnote omitted.

**De minimis and
negligibility rules
Article 5.8, ADA**

...where the authorities determine that the margin of dumping is de minimis. or that the volume of dumped imports, actual or potential, or the injury, is negligible. The margin of dumping shall be considered to be de minimis if the margin is less than 2 per cent, expressed as a percentage of the export price; The volume of dumped imports shall normally be regarded as negligible if the volume of dumped imports from a particular country is found to account for less than 3 per cent of imports of the like product in the importing Member, unless countries which individually account for less than 3 per cent of the import of the like product in the importing Member collectively account for more than 7 per cent of the imports of the like products in the importing Member.

The difference between the words ‘prompt’ and ‘immediate’ highlighted above possibly reflects recognition by the drafters that findings of *de minimis* dumping and *negligible* injury can often only be made when the investigation is well advanced.

Contrary to other commercial defence agreements such as the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and the Safeguards Agreement, these rules do not establish a higher threshold for developing countries.

4.2.5 Deadlines

Article 5.10 ADA

Article 5.10 provides that investigations shall normally be concluded within one year and in no case more than 18 months, after their initiation. The 18 months’ deadline seems absolute.

4.2.6 Interested Parties

Article 6.11 ADA

The parties most directly affected by an anti-dumping investigation are the domestic producers, foreign producers and exporters and their importers. However, the government of the exporting country and representative trade associations also qualify. Article 6.11 provides that other domestic or foreign parties may also be included as interested parties by the importing country Member.

4.3 Due Process Rights

Articles 6 and 12 ADA contain various due process rights of interested parties and the Appellate Body emphasized their importance in *Thailand-H-Beams*.

**Appellate Body
Report, Thailand-H-
Beams**

...Article 6...establishes a framework of procedural and due process obligations which, amongst other matters, requires investigating authorities to disclose certain evidence, during the investigation, to the interested parties. Article 6.2 requires that parties to an investigation “shall have a full opportunity for the defence of their interests”. Article 6.9 requires that, before



a final determination is made, authorities shall “inform all interested parties of the essential facts under consideration which form the basis for the decision”.....In a similar manner to Article 6, Article 12 establishes a framework of procedural and due process obligations concerning, notably, the contents of a final determination...Article 12, like Article 6, sets forth important procedural and due process obligations.³⁶

4.3.1 Public Notices and Explanation of Determinations

Article 12 ADA

Article 12 obliges importing Member authorities to publish public notices of initiation, and of preliminary and final determinations, with increasing degrees of specificity, as the investigation progresses. In addition, they must publish detailed explanations of their determinations.

Article 12.1.1, ADA

A public notice of the initiation of an investigation shall contain, adequate information on the following:

- (i) name of the exporting country/countries and product involved;*
- (ii) the date of initiation of the investigation;*
- (iii) the basis on which dumping is alleged in the application;*
- (iv) a summary of the factors on which the allegation of injury is based;*
- (v) the address to which representations by interested parties should be directed;*
- (vi) the time-limits allowed to interested parties for making their views known.*

Contents notice imposition provisional measures, Article 12.2.1, ADA

...sufficiently detailed explanations for the preliminary determinations on dumping and injury and shall refer to the matters of fact and law which have led to arguments being accepted or rejected. Such a notice or report shall...contain in particular:

- (i) names of the suppliers, or when this is impracticable, the supplying countries involved;*
- (ii) a description of the product which is sufficient for customs purposes;*
- (iii) the margins of dumping established and a full explanation of the reasons for the methodology used in the establishment and comparison of the export price and the normal value under Article 2;*
- (iv) considerations relevant to the injury determination as set out in Article 3;*
- (v) the main reasons leading to the determination.*

Contents notice definitive measures Article 12.2.2, ADA

...all relevant information on the matters of fact and law and reasons which have led to the imposition of final measures...In particular, the notice or report shall contain the information described in subparagraph 2.1, as well as the reasons for the acceptance or rejection of relevant arguments or claims made by the exporters and importers, and the basis for any decision made under subparagraph 10.2 of Article 6.

³⁶ Appellate Body Report, Thailand-H-Beams, paras. 109-110.

Conceptually, Article 12 violations are often linked to substantive violations. If, for example, an exporter argues that the injury suffered by the domestic industry was not caused by dumped imports, but by its lack of productivity and the investigating authority does not examine this argument, the authority logically violates both Article 3.5 (the substantive obligation) and Article 12.2.2 (the procedural obligation).

While some panels have followed this logic, others, however, have not, as the following two different approaches show.

Panel Report, Mexico-Corn Syrup

Mexico's failure to set forth findings or conclusions on the issue of the retroactive application of the final anti-dumping measure is not consistent with the provisions of Articles 12.2 and 12.2.2 of the AD Agreement.³⁷

Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen

...we consider that where there is a violation of the substantive requirement, the question of whether the notice is sufficient under Article 12.2.2 is immaterial.³⁸

The difference between the two approaches is important because of the two-tiered WTO dispute settlement system and the lack of remand authority of the Appellate Body. If, under the second approach, the Appellate Body overturns the substantive violation, it may not be able to address the Article 12 violation because the Panel has not reached a finding on this issue.

4.3.2 Confidentiality

Anti-dumping investigations involve immense amounts of confidential and sensitive business information because they require companies to submit to the importing Member authorities pricing and costing information in various markets in exquisite detail. In order to mount an optimal legal defense, interested parties ideally need access to the confidential information submitted by the opposing side (foreign producers and their importers versus domestic producers and vice versa). On the other hand, they will be extremely reluctant to provide their own confidential information to their competitors. Thus, to ensure fair play and equality of arms, a balance must be struck between these competing interests and a legal system must give opposing parties equal levels of access to information.

Article 6.5 ADA

Article 6.5 ADA chooses for the principle³⁹ that information which is by its nature confidential or which is provided on a confidential basis shall, upon good cause shown, be treated as confidential by the authorities and shall not be disclosed without specific information of the party submitting it. However, the authorities shall require interested parties providing confidential information to provide meaningful non-confidential summaries thereof.

³⁷ *Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para. 8.2 (e).*

³⁸ *Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 6.261.*

³⁹ *However, in an important footnote 17, Members recognize that, in the territory of certain Members, disclosure pursuant to a narrowly drawn protective order may be required. This is the case, inter alia, in the United States and Canada.*

Thus, whenever interested parties make a submission to the importing Member authorities, they should generally prepare both a confidential and a non-confidential version of the submission. The confidential version will be accessible only to the importing Member authorities. The non-confidential version, on the other hand, will be placed in the non-confidential file and can be accessed by all interested parties in the investigation.

4.3.3 Other Rights

Other important due process rights in Article 6 include the opportunity to present evidence in writing (Article 6.1), the right of access to the file (Article 6.1.2 *jo.* 6.4), the right to have a hearing and to meet opposing parties (confrontation meeting; Article 6.2), the right to be timely informed of the essential facts under consideration which form the basis for the decision whether to apply definitive measures (disclosure; Article 6.9), and the right to obtain, subject to exceptions,⁴⁰ an individual dumping margin (Article 6.10).

4.3.4 Facts Available/Administrative Deadlines

Article 6.8 *jo.* Annex II to the ADA provide that in cases where an interested party refuses access to, or otherwise does not provide, necessary information within a reasonable period or significantly impedes the investigation, preliminary and final determinations, affirmative or negative, may be made on the basis of the facts available.

In *US – Hot-Rolled Steel*, the Appellate Body and the Panel essentially adopted a rule of reason approach in rejecting automatic recourse to facts available where deadlines are missed.

Panel Report, US-Hot-Rolled Steel

...we recognize that in the interest of orderly administration investigating authorities do, and indeed must establish...deadlines. However, a rigid adherence to such deadlines does not in all cases suffice as the basis for a conclusion that information was not submitted within a reasonable period and consequently that facts available may be applied. ...Particularly where information is actually submitted in time to be verified, and actually could be verified, we consider that it should generally be accepted, unless to do so would impede the ability of the investigating authority to complete the investigation within the time limits established by the Agreement...One of the principle elements governing anti-dumping investigations that emerges from the whole of the AD Agreement is the goal of ensuring objective decision-making based on facts. Article 6.8 and Annex II advance that goal by ensuring that even where the investigating authority is unable to obtain the “first-best” information as the basis of its decision, it will nonetheless base its decision on facts, albeit perhaps “second-best” facts.⁴¹

Appellate Body Report, US-Hot-Rolled Steel

...we conclude...that, under Article 6.8, USDOC was not entitled to reject this information for the sole reason that it was submitted beyond the deadlines →

⁴⁰ In certain cases, authorities may resort to sampling.

⁴¹ Panel Report, US – Hot-Rolled Steel, paras 7.54-7.55, footnotes omitted.

for responses to the questionnaires. Accordingly, we find that USDOC's action does not rest upon a permissible interpretation of Article 6.8 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement⁴²

4.4 Provisional Measures

Provisional measures should preferably take the form of a security (cash deposit or bond), may not be applied sooner than 60 days from the date of initiation and may not last longer than four months or, on decision of the importing Member authorities, upon request by exporters representing a significant percentage of the trade involved, maximally six months. Where authorities examine the lesser duty rule, these periods may be six and nine months.

Article 7 ADA

It is important to note that Article 7 uses the term 'measures' and not 'duties.' Under the system of the ADA, at the time that the importing Member decides to impose definitive duties, it must also decide whether to retroactively levy provisional anti-dumping duties (see section 4.6 below).

4.5 Price Undertakings

Anti-dumping investigations may be suspended or terminated without anti-dumping duties where exporters offer undertakings to revise prices or cease exports to the area in question at dumped prices so that the authorities are satisfied that the injurious effect of the dumping is eliminated. Use of the word 'may' indicates that authorities have complete discretion in this regard and, indeed, some authorities are reluctant as a matter of policy to accept price undertakings. Price undertakings are often the preferred solution by exporters. The *EC-Bed Linen* Panel ruled that acceptance of price undertakings may qualify as a constructive remedy in cases involving developing countries.

4.6 Anti-dumping Duties

"public interest clause"

Imposition of anti-dumping duties where injurious dumping has been found is discretionary and use of a lesser duty rule is encouraged. Many WTO Members include a public interest clause in their national legislation to enable them to refrain from imposing duties, even where injurious dumping is found.

If an anti-dumping duty is imposed, it must be collected on a non-discriminatory basis on imports of the product from all sources found to be injuriously dumped.

Article 9.4 ADA

Article 9.4 provides special rules in cases where the authorities have resorted to sampling. In such cases, the cooperating sampled producers will normally get their individual anti-dumping duties. This leaves two categories: cooperating/non-sampled producers and non-cooperating/non-sampled

⁴² *Appellate Body Report, US – Hot- Rolled Steel, para 89.*

producers. Article 9.4 addresses the situation of the first category. It provides that the anti-dumping duty applied to them shall not exceed the weighted average margin of dumping established with respect to the sampled producers or exporters, provided that the authorities shall disregard any zero and *de minimis* margins and margins established on the basis of facts available.

In *US-Hot-Rolled Steel*, the Appellate Body confirmed the Panel finding that a provision of the United States Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, requiring inclusion of margins established *partly* on facts available in calculating the rate for cooperating/non-sampled producers was inconsistent with Article 9.4 ADA.

**Appellate Body
Report, US-Hot-Rolled
Steel**

As section 735(c)(5)(A) of the United States Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, requires the inclusion of margins established, in part, on the basis of facts available, in the calculation of the “all others” rate, and to the extent that this results in an “all others” rate in excess of the maximum allowable rate under Article 9.4, we uphold the Panel’s finding that section 735(c)(5)(A) of the United States Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, is inconsistent with Article 9.4 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement. We also uphold the Panel’s consequent findings that the United States acted inconsistently with Article 18.4 of that Agreement and with Article XVI:4 of the WTO Agreement. We further uphold the Panel’s finding that the United States’ application of the method set forth in section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, to determine the “all others” rate in this case was inconsistent with United States’ obligations under the Anti-Dumping Agreement because it was based on a method that included, in the calculation of the “all others” rate, margins established, in part, using facts available.⁴³

Article 9.3 ADA

Article 9.3 introduces the distinction between retrospective and prospective duty collection systems and requires prompt refunds of over-payments in both cases.

Under the retrospective system, used mainly by the United States, the original investigation ends with an estimate of future liability; however, the actual amount of anti-dumping duties to be paid will be established in the course of annual reviews, covering the preceding one-year period.

Under the prospective system, used by the EC and most other countries, on the other hand, the findings made during the original investigation form the basis for the future collection of anti-dumping duties, normally for the five years following the publication of the final determination.

The retrospective system is more precise than the prospective system. On the other hand, it is costly and time-consuming for all parties, including the importing Member authorities.

⁴³ Appellate Body Report, US – Hot-Rolled Steel, para. 129, footnote omitted.

4.7 Retroactivity

Article 10 ADA

Article 10 ADA provides for two types of retroactivity.

First, where a final determination of injury (but not of a threat thereof or of a material retardation of the establishment of an industry) is made or, in the case of a final determination of a threat of injury, where the effect of the dumped imports would, in the absence of the provisional measures, have led to a determination of injury, anti dumping duties may be levied retroactively for the period for which provisional measures, if any, have been applied. This type of retroactivity is often applied by importing Members.

Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup

...while Article 10.2 does not explicitly require a “determination” that “the effect of the dumped imports would, in the absence of the provisional measures, have led to a determination of injury”, there must be some specific statement in the final determination of the investigating authority from which a reviewing panel can discern that the issue addressed in Article 10.2 was properly considered and decided.⁴⁴

Second, a definitive anti dumping duty may be levied on products which were entered for consumption not more than 90 days prior to the date of application of provisional measures, when the authorities determine for the dumped product in question that:

- (i) there is a history of dumping which caused injury or that the importer was, or should have been, aware that the exporter practises dumping and that such dumping would cause injury, and
- (ii) the injury is caused by massive dumped imports of a product in a relatively short time which in light of the timing and the volume of the dumped imports and other circumstances (such as a rapid build up of inventories of the imported product) is likely to seriously undermine the remedial effect of the definitive anti dumping duty to be applied, provided that the importers concerned have been given an opportunity to comment.

This second type of retroactivity is seldom applied because the conditions are very stringent.

4.8 Reviews

Article 9.5 ADA

The ADA recognizes three types of reviews of anti-dumping measures. First, Article 9.5 requires importing Member authorities to promptly – and in accelerated manner - carry out reviews requested by newcomers, *i.e.* producers which did not export during the original investigation period and which will normally be subject to the residual duty (“all others” rate) that was imposed in the original investigation. During the course of the review, no anti-dumping

⁴⁴ Panel Report, Mexico – Corn Syrup, para. 7.191.

duties shall be levied on the newcomers. However, the importing Member authorities may withhold appraisal and/or request guarantees to ensure that, should the newcomer review investigation result in a determination of dumping, anti-dumping duties can be levied retroactively to the date of initiation of the review.

Article 11 ADA

Second, Article 11 provides for what can be called interim and expiry reviews. To start with the latter, definitive anti-dumping duties shall normally expire after five years from their imposition, unless the domestic industry asks for a review within a reasonable period of time preceding the expiry, arguing that the expiry of the duty would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and injury.

During the five year period (hence the term interim review), interested parties may request the authorities to examine whether the continued imposition of the duty is necessary to offset dumping, whether the injury would be likely to continue or recur if the duty were removed or varied, or both. In both cases, the measures may stay in force pending the outcome of the review.

The interim and expiry review investigations require prospective and counterfactual analysis. In this context, the fact that during the review investigation period, dumping and/or injury did not take place is not necessarily decisive because it might indicate that the measures are having effect.

Panel Report, US-DRAMS

...In our view, this confirms a finding that the absence of present dumping does not in and of itself require the immediate termination of an anti-dumping duty pursuant to Article 11.2.⁴⁵

4.9 Judicial Review

Article 13 ADA

Article 13 provides that Members, which do adopt anti-dumping legislation, must also maintain independent judicial, arbitral or administrative tribunals or procedures for the purpose of prompt review of administrative final and review determinations.

4.10 Flowchart

The flowchart below shows the various procedural stages in an anti-dumping investigation emanating from the ADA. It is emphasized that national implementing legislation often will be much more detailed:

⁴⁵ Panel Report, United States – Anti-Dumping Duty on Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors (DRAMS) of One Megabit or Above from Korea (US – DRAMS), WT/DS99/R, para. 6.32.

Day

Stage of the proceeding

Submission of a written application by the domestic industry.



Examination of the application by the investigating authority. Before initiating the investigation, the investigating authority must notify the government of the exporting country concerned that an application for the initiation of an anti-dumping investigation has been received.



1

The investigating authority rejects the complaint if there is insufficient prima facie evidence that injurious dumping has taken place. In such a case, the proceeding is not initiated. Otherwise, the investigating authority initiates the investigation in which case public notice must be given.



Transmission of the full text of the written application to the known exporters and to the authorities of the exporting Member *as soon as the investigation has been initiated*. Upon request, the text of the application must be made available to other interested parties. The investigating authority must also send the questionnaires to exporters, importers, domestic industry and other interested parties. Exporters or foreign producers must be given at least 30 days to reply. This time-limit must be counted from the date of receipt of the questionnaire, which shall be deemed to have been received one week from the date on which it was sent to the respondent or transmitted to the appropriate diplomatic representative of the exporting Member. Extensions may be granted.



Expiry of deadline for questionnaire responses. Interested parties may submit comments. Non-confidential summaries of written submissions must generally be made available to other parties. Interested parties are also entitled to request to be heard and to hold confrontation meetings with opposing parties. Interested parties are entitled to have access to the non-confidential (public) file and to prepare presentations on the basis of the consulted information.

No sooner than 60 days from day 1, no later than 9 months

Analysis of all data collected. Provisional determination reached.



Publication of a notice imposing provisional anti-dumping measures for six months if a preliminary affirmative determination has been made of dumping and consequent injury to a domestic industry. Interested parties must be given the possibility to submit comments to the findings on the basis of which the investigating authority decided to impose provisional anti-dumping measures



Interested parties have the right to be heard, submit comments, access to the non-confidential (public) file and hold meetings.



Analysis by the investigating authority of the comments and evidence collected. Definitive determination reached.



Transmission of definitive disclosure to interested parties. This disclosure must take place in sufficient time for interested parties to be able to defend their interests.



Expiry of deadline for interested parties to submit their comments on the investigating authority's findings.



Analysis by the investigating authority of the comments submitted by interested parties.



No later than 12 months from day one or four months after date of imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties. In exceptional circumstances, no later than 18 months after initiation or six months after the imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties.

Adoption and publication of the notice imposing definitive measures for up to five years. In the event that it has been found that sales did not take place at dumped prices or that the domestic industry did not suffer injury due to the imports from the targeted country, then a notice of termination of the proceeding must be published.

4.11 Initiation of Anti-dumping Investigations at National Level

Until the 1990s, Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States initiated most anti-dumping investigations. However, since that time, many other countries have also adopted anti-dumping legislation and applied anti-dumping measures. According to WTO statistics, a substantial number of anti-dumping investigations have been initiated also by other countries such as Argentina, Brazil, the Republic of Korea, India, Mexico and South Africa. According to recent UNCTAD estimates, from 1995 to 1999 1,229 anti-dumping proceedings were initiated, of which 651 by developing countries, and the recent trends show that "...developing countries now initiate about half of the total number of anti-dumping cases, and some of them employ anti-dumping more actively than most of the developed country users."⁴⁶

4.12 Test Your Understanding

1. **An administering authority prepares non-confidential summaries of confidential information that has been submitted by the domestic industry and puts these in the non-confidential file. Does this violate the ADA?**
2. **An administering authority gives exporters 45 days to respond to the questionnaires and domestic producers 60 days. Is this allowed under the WTO?**
3. **Can anti-dumping duties be imposed retroactively? For how long and under what conditions?**
4. **A WTO Member provides in its anti-dumping legislation that trade unions may qualify as an interested party in an anti-dumping investigation. Is this allowed under the ADA?**
5. **In the context of an anti-dumping investigation, the investigating authority accepts an undertaking from an exporter not to export more than 5,000 metric tons a year. Is this permissible under the ADA?**

⁴⁶ Miranda, Torres, Ruiz, *The International Use of Anti-Dumping—1987-1997*, 32:5 *Journal of World Trade*, 1998, 5–72, at 64.

5. THE WTO PROCEDURES

This Section gives an overview of WTO dispute settlement cases litigated under the ADA, the special dispute settlement provisions in the ADA and conceptual issues that have arisen in the case law of panels and the Appellate Body. It does not include substantive or national procedural issues because these have been covered in the previous sections.

5.1 Introduction

In light of the explosion of anti-dumping measures worldwide, it is noteworthy that relatively few anti-dumping measures have been challenged in the WTO. There may be several explanations for this phenomenon. More than in other areas of WTO law, anti-dumping measures directly and principally impact on the *private* sector and often result from skirmishes between domestic and foreign industries. Anti-dumping legislation is also complicated and cases are highly factual (as a result of which they are often multi-claim cases). Thus, before a WTO dispute settlement proceeding is initiated, the private industry must explain technicalities to and convince the government of the merits of its case and experience shows that this is no easy task. Furthermore, governments dislike losing WTO cases, especially as complainants where the initiative is theirs, and tend to proceed only if they can be convinced that the case is ironclad. WTO dispute settlement cases in this area are also labour-intensive and costly because so much depends on the details of the case. Last, as anti-dumping duties are producer-specific and there will often be producers with lower and higher duties, the industry as such may not necessarily have a common interest in challenging a measure.

However, the record shows that, once WTO dispute settlement cases *are* initiated, the applicant often is found to have a strong case. The table below provides details with respect to the cases, which led to Panel/Appellate Body Reports from 1995 to 2001.

WTO cases involving anti-dumping law or measures 1995-2002

Panel Report	AB Report	Date of Adoption	Applicant (Appellant)	Respondents (Appellee)	Third Parties (Participants)
<i>US-Dumping Offset Act</i>		WT/DS217/R WT/DS234/R (in circulation)	Australia, Brazil Chile EC India Indonesia Japan Republic of Korea Thailand	United States	Argentina Canada Costa Rica Hong Kong China Israel Mexico Norway
<i>Egypt-Rebar</i>		WT/DS211/R (in circulation)	Turkey	Egypt	Chile EC Japan United States
<i>US-Section 129</i>		30/08/2002 WT/DS221/R	Canada	United States	Chile EC India Japan
<i>US-Steel Plate from India</i>		29/07/2002 WT/DS206/R/Corr 1	India	United States	Chile EC Japan
	<i>Mexico–Corn Syrup (21.5 – US)</i>	21/11/2001 WT/DS132/ARW	United States	Mexico	EC Jamaica Mauritius
<i>Argentina – Ceramic Tiles</i>		05/11/2001 WT/DS189/R	EC	Argentina	Japan Turkey United States
	<i>US – Hot-Rolled Steel</i>	23/08/01 WT/DS184/AB/R	Japan United States	Japan United States	Brazil Canada Chile Republic of Korea
<i>Mexico–Corn Syrup (21.5 – US) (appealed)</i>		WT/DS132/RW	United States	Mexico	EC Jamaica Mauritius
	<i>Thailand - H-Beams</i>	15/04/2001 WT/DS122/AB/R	Thailand	Poland	EC Japan United States
	<i>EC - Bed Linen</i>	12/03/2001 WT/DS141/AB/R	EC India	EC India	Egypt Japan United States
<i>US - Hot-Rolled Steel (appealed)</i>		WT/DS/184/R	Japan	United States	Brazil Chile Canada Republic of Korea
<i>US –Stainless Steel)</i>		01/02/2001 WT/DS179/R	Republic of Korea	United States	EC Japan
<i>EC - Bed Linen (appealed)</i>		WT/DS141/R	India	EC	Egypt Japan United States
<i>Guatemala - Cement II</i>		17/11/2000 WT/DS156/R	Mexico	Guatemala	EC Ecuador El Salvador Honduras United States
<i>Thailand H-Beams (appealed)</i>		WT/DS122/R	Poland	Thailand	EC Japan United States
	<i>US – 1916 Act</i>	26/09/2000 WT/DS136/AB/R WT/DS/162/AB/R	EC Japan United States	EC Japan United States	EC India Japan Mexico
<i>US - 1916 Act (Japan) (appealed)</i>		WT/DS162/R	Japan	United States	EC India
<i>US - 1916 Act (EC) (appealed)</i>		WT/DS136/R	EC	United States	India Japan Mexico
<i>Mexico–Corn Syrup</i>		24/02/2000 WT/DS132/R	United States	Mexico	Jamaica Mauritius

<i>US - DRAMS</i>		19/03/1999 WT/DS99/R	Republic of Korea	United States	
	<i>Guatemala - Cement I</i>	25/11/1998 WT/DS60/AB/R	Guatemala	Mexico	United States
<i>Guatemala - Cement I (appealed)</i>		WT/DS60/R	Mexico	Guatemala	United States Canada El Salvador Honduras

The EC, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Mexico were the complainant in two cases, and Canada Poland and the United States each in one case. The United States was a defendant in eight cases, Guatemala in two cases, and Argentina, the EC, Mexico and Thailand each in one case. It is noteworthy that developing countries⁴⁷ were involved as principal parties in six and as third parties in 13 cases.

Third party representations were made mostly by the EC (five times) and Japan and the United States (four times each). This seems to reflect the perception of these countries that it is important to actively monitor and be heard in on-going dispute settlement proceedings because of systemic determinations that will often exceed the specifics of the case.

5.2 WTO ADA Jurisdiction and Standard of Review

5.2.1 *Identification of Measure in Request for Establishment*

Article 17.4 ADA

Article 17.4 contains a special rule providing that a Member may refer the matter to the DSB if final action has been taken by the administering authorities of the importing Member to levy definitive anti dumping duties or to accept price undertakings. When a provisional measure has a significant impact and the Member that requested consultations considers that the measure was taken contrary to the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 7, that Member may also refer such matter to the DSB. Thus Article 17.4, which does not have a counterpart in other commercial defence agreements such as the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and the Agreement on Safeguards, explicitly identifies three types of measures.

In the first anti-dumping case before it, *Guatemala-Cement I*, the Appellate Body ruled that the request for establishment of a panel in an anti-dumping case must *always* identify one of these three measures. In other words, it is not possible to challenge a ‘proceeding.’ Similarly, it is not possible to challenge the initiation of a proceeding or subsequent procedural or substantive decisions as such. *Claims* relating to such issues may be made, but one of the three measures mentioned in Article 17.4 ADA must always be identified.

⁴⁷ For this purpose Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Mauritius, Poland, Thailand and Turkey are included.

**Appellate Body
Report, Guatemala-
Cement I**

...Article 17.4 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement specifies the types of “measure” which may be referred as part of a “matter” to the DSB. Three types of anti-dumping measure are specified in Article 17.4: definitive anti-dumping duties, the acceptance of price undertakings, and provisional measures. According to Article 17.4, a “matter” may be referred to the DSB only if one of the relevant three anti-dumping measures is in place. This provision, when read together with Article 6.2 of the DSU, requires a panel request in a dispute brought under the Anti-Dumping Agreement to identify, as the specific measure at issue, either a definitive anti-dumping duty, the acceptance of a price undertaking, or a provisional measure.⁴⁸

**Appellate Body
Report, US-1916 Act**

...In the context of dispute settlement proceedings regarding an anti-dumping investigation, there is tension between, on the one hand, a complaining Member’s right to seek redress when illegal action affects its economic operators and, on the other hand, the risk that a responding Member may be harassed or its resources squandered if dispute settlement proceedings could be initiated against it in respect of each step, however small, taken in the course of an anti-dumping investigation, even before any concrete measure had been adopted. ... Article 17.4 strikes a balance between these competing considerations.⁴⁹

In a jurisdictional challenge in the *US-1916 Act* cases, the United States took the position that Article 17.4 ADA should be interpreted as allowing WTO dispute settlement actions only against one of the three measures and not against legislation. The Appellate Body rejected this interpretation and upheld traditional GATT jurisprudence that *mandatory* (as opposed to *discretionary*) legislation can be challenged.

**Appellate Body
Report, US –1916 Act**

*In the same way that Article XXIII of the GATT 1994 allows a WTO Member to challenge legislation as such, Article 17 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement is properly to be regarded as allowing a challenge to legislation as such, unless this possibility is excluded. No such express exclusion is found in Article 17 or elsewhere in the Anti-Dumping Agreement. ... We note that, unlike Articles 17.1 to 17.3, Article 17.4 is a special or additional dispute settlement rule listed in Appendix 2 to the DSU. ... Nothing in our Report in Guatemala – Cement suggests that Article 17.4 precludes review of anti-dumping legislation as such. Rather, in that case, we simply found that, for Mexico to challenge Guatemala’s initiation and conduct of the anti-dumping investigation, Mexico was required to identify one of the three anti-dumping measures listed in Article 17.4 in its request for establishment of a panel. Since it did not do so, the panel in that case did not have jurisdiction.*⁵⁰

Thus, legislation may be challenged in se, if it is mandatory, as was the case in the *US-1916 Act* cases. It may also be contested as applied in a certain investigation. The latter occurred, for example, in cases such as *US-DRAMS* and *US-Hot-Rolled Steel*. This means that a Member challenges one of the

⁴⁸ Appellate Body Report, Guatemala Cement I, WT/DS60/AB/R, para. 79.

⁴⁹ Appellate Body Report, United States – Anti-Dumping Act of 1916 (US – 1916 Act), WT/DS136/AB/R, para. 73, footnote omitted.

⁵⁰ Appellate Body Report, US – 1916 Act, paras 62-72.

three measures identified in Article 17.4 and argues that certain elements of the national law on which the measure was based violate WTO provisions.

5.2.2 *Special Standard of Review*

Article 17.6 of the ADA provides a special standard of review for Panels examining anti-dumping disputes.

Article 17.6(i) ADA

...in its assessment of the facts of the matter, the panel shall determine whether the authorities' establishment of the facts was proper and whether their evaluation of those facts was unbiased and objective. If the establishment of the facts was proper and the evaluation was unbiased and objective, even though the panel might have reached a different conclusion, the evaluation shall not be overturned.

Article 17.6(ii) ADA

...the panel shall interpret the relevant provisions of the Agreement in accordance with customary rules of interpretation of public international law. Where the panel finds that a relevant provision of the Agreement admits of more than one permissible interpretation, the panel shall find the authorities' measure to be in conformity with the Agreement if it rests upon one of those permissible interpretations.

Article 17.6(i) is designed to prevent *de novo* review by panels by placing limits on their examination of the evaluation of the facts by the authorities. Article 17.6(ii) obliges panels to uphold permissible interpretations of ADA provisions by national authorities in cases where such provisions permit more than one permissible interpretation.

Thus far two permissible interpretations have been found only once by a Panel, but the relevant Panel finding was overturned on appeal.

Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen

...we consider that an interpretation of Article 2.2.2(ii) under which sales not in the ordinary course of trade are excluded from the determination of the profit amount to be used in the calculation of a constructed normal value is permissible.⁵¹

Appellate Body Report, EC-Bed Linen

...we reverse the finding of the Panel...that, in calculating the amount for profits under Article 2.2.2(ii) of the ADA, a Member may exclude sales by other exporters or producers that are not made in the ordinary course of trade.⁵²

In contrast, in *US-Hot-Rolled Steel*, the Appellate Body overturned the Panel in finding that use of downstream sales prices by affiliates to unrelated customers on the domestic market was a permissible interpretation of Article 2.1.

⁵¹ Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 6.87.

⁵² Appellate Body Report, EC-Bed Linen, paras. 84.

**Appellate Body
Report, US-Hot-Rolled
Steel**

In the present case, as we said, Japan and the United States agree that the downstream sales by affiliates were made “in the ordinary course of trade”. The participants also agree that these sales were of the “like product” and these products were “destined for consumption in the exporting country.” In these circumstances, we find that the reliance by USDOC on downstream sales to calculate normal value rested upon an interpretation of Article 2.1 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement that is, in principle, “permissible” following application of the rules of treaty interpretation in the Vienna Convention.

We, therefore, reverse the Panel’s finding, in paragraph 8.1(c) of the Panel Report, that the reliance by USDOC on downstream sales between parties affiliated with an investigated exporter and independent purchasers to calculate normal value was inconsistent with Article 2.1 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement.⁵³

5.3 Procedural Issues

5.3.1 Specificity of Claims in Request for Establishment

The Appellate Body has held that claims must be specified with sufficient precision in the request for establishment of a Panel. While in some instances, it may be sufficient to mention the articles of the Agreements alleged to have been violated (*EC-Bananas*⁵⁴), in cases where articles contain multiple obligations, more detail will generally be necessary (*Korea-Dairy Safeguards*)⁵⁵, unless the rights of defence of the respondent are not impeded by the failure to do so. The latter determination must be made on a case-by-case basis (*Thailand-H-Beams*).

This ruling is very important for the ADA because many ADA articles, including key articles such as Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 12, contain multiple obligations and may form the basis for numerous claims. It is therefore recommendable that an applicant not only refers to articles and paragraphs in an ADA dispute, but also shortly summarizes its claims in descriptive form. This is all the more so because disputes in this area tend to be multi-claim in nature.

5.3.2 ‘New’ Claims

The Appellate Body has confirmed that a *government* bringing an anti-dumping case is not necessarily confined to the claims made by its *producers* in the course of the national procedures. There is, in other words, no principle of exhaustion of administrative remedies.

⁵³ Appellate Body Report, US – Hot-Rolled Steel, paras. 172-173.

⁵⁴ Appellate Body Report, European Communities – Regime for Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas (*EC Bananas*), WT/DS27/AB/R, adopted 25 September 1997

⁵⁵ Appellate Body Report, Korea Definitive Safeguard Measures on Imports of Certain Dairy Products (*Korean-Dairy*), WT/DS98/AB/R, adopted 12 January 2000

**Appellate Body
Report, Thailand-H-
Beams**

...The Panel's reasoning seems to assume that there is always continuity between claims raised in an underlying anti-dumping investigation and claims raised by a complaining party in a related dispute brought before the WTO. This is not necessarily the case. The parties involved in an underlying anti-dumping investigation are generally exporters, importers and other commercial entities, while those involved in WTO dispute settlement are the Members of the WTO. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the range of issues raised in an anti-dumping investigation will be the same as the claims that a Member chooses to bring before the WTO in a dispute.⁵⁶

5.3.3 Standing

WTO dispute settlement proceedings are between governments and, consequently, only WTO Members can initiate such proceedings. Thus, even though anti-dumping disputes are driven by the private sector and target foreign competitors, as opposed to foreign governments, neither the domestic industry nor foreign exporters and producers can initiate or respond in WTO dispute settlement proceedings or appear before Panels or the Appellate Body in their own right.

Indirectly, however, industry representatives may play a role in such proceedings in at least two manners. First of all, the Appellate Body has held that Members have the right to compose their own delegation. Thus, if a WTO Member decides to attach an industry representative to its delegation, this is allowed, it being understood that the representative will be subject to the same confidentiality requirements as governmental members of the delegation. Second, interested parties may file *amicus curiae* briefs. This happened, for example, in *EC-Bed Linen* in the panel phase⁵⁷ and in *Thailand-H-Beams* in the Appellate Body phase.⁵⁸

5.4 Panel Recommendations and Suggestions

Article 19.1 DSU

The distinction between Panel recommendations and suggestions (which are not legally binding) is made in Article 19.1 DSU⁵⁹ and is therefore not specific to the ADA. However, it is recalled that the main reason for this distinction is that a number of GATT panels in the AD/CVD area had recommended that, where investigations have been initiated illegally by the investigating authorities, AD/CVD measures imposed must be revoked and duties collected reimbursed. Such recommendations are no longer possible and only suggestions to that

⁵⁶ *Appellate Body Report, Thailand-H-Beams, para. 94.*

⁵⁷ *The Foreign Trade Association filed an amicus curiae submission in support of India's complaint, see Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, footnote 10.*

⁵⁸ *The brief was filed by Consuming Industries Trade Action Coalition ("CITAC"), a coalition of United States companies and trade associations.*

⁵⁹ *Article 19.1 provides that where a panel or the Appellate Body concludes that a measure is inconsistent with a covered agreement, it shall recommend that the Member concerned bring the measure into conformity with that agreement and that, in addition to its recommendations, the panel or Appellate Body may suggest ways in which the Member concerned could implement the recommendations.*

effect can now be made. Thus far, only the *Guatemala-Cement II* Panel has suggested that a measure be revoked. The same Panel refused to suggest that the anti-dumping duties collected be reimbursed on systemic grounds.

**Panel Report,
Guatemala-Cement II**

...In light of the nature and extent of the violations in this case, we do not perceive how Guatemala could properly implement our recommendation without revoking the anti-dumping measure at issue in this dispute. Accordingly, we suggest that Guatemala revoke its anti-dumping measure on imports of grey portland cement from Mexico. In respect of Mexico's request that we suggest that Guatemala refund the anti-dumping duties collected, we note that Guatemala has now maintained a WTO-inconsistent anti-dumping measure in place for a period of three and a half years. Thus, we fully understand Mexico's desire to see the anti-dumping duties repaid and considers that repayment might be justifiable in circumstances such as these... Mexico's request raises important systemic issues regarding the nature of the actions necessary to implement a recommendation under Article 19.1 of the DSU, issues which have not been fully explored in this dispute. Thus, we decline Mexico's request to suggest that Guatemala refund the anti-dumping duties collected.⁶⁰

5.5 Test Your Understanding

1. **A WTO Member adopts legislation mandating prison terms for exporters found to have injuriously dumped. Can this legislation be challenged in the WTO? What do you think a Panel would decide?**
2. **A WTO Member claims in its request for establishment of a Panel that another Member has violated Article 2 ADA. Is this claim sufficiently precise? What if he claims a violation of Article 2.2? Article 3.4? Article 5.9?**
3. **A WTO Member starts a dispute settlement proceeding against an anti-dumping measure taken by another Member and raises an issue that was not argued by its exporters in the course of the administrative proceeding. Does the Panel have jurisdiction to entertain this claim?**
4. **A WTO Member starts a dispute settlement proceeding against an anti-dumping measure taken by another Member which is also being challenged in the domestic courts of the latter by the exporters. Can the Panel proceed?**
5. **Can a Panel recommend the reimbursement of anti-dumping duties, which, in its view, have been illegally collected?**

⁶⁰ Panel Report, *Guatemala-Cement II*, paras 9.6-9.7.

6. DEVELOPING COUNTRY MEMBERS

This section examines Article 15 of the ADA which provides special and differential treatment for developing countries.

6.1 Article 15 ADA

Developing countries have been active participants in WTO dispute settlement proceedings involving anti-dumping issues. At the level of the ADA itself, however, the position of developing countries in most respects is not different from that of developed countries. They must abide by the same rules and, developing country exporters have the same rights and obligations as their counterparts in developed countries. The one exception is Article 15 ADA. This Article was unchanged from the Tokyo Round Code.

Article 15 ADA

It is recognized that special regard must be given by developed country Members to the special situation of developing country Members when considering the application of anti dumping measures under this Agreement. Possibilities of constructive remedies provided for by this Agreement shall be explored before applying anti dumping duties where they would affect the essential interests of developing country Members.

6.2 Panel Interpretation

Under the Tokyo Round Anti-Dumping Code, in *EC-Cotton Yarns*⁶¹, Brazil had challenged the failure of the EC to apply this Article; however, the Panel rejected Brazil's claims. As a result, many considered Article 15 a dead letter. However, in the recent *EC-Bed Linen* report, the Panel gave the provision new life:

...the "exploration" of possibilities must be actively undertaken by the developed country authorities with a willingness to reach a positive outcome. Thus, Article 15, in our view, imposes no obligation to actually provide or accept any constructive remedy that may be identified and/or offered. It does, however, impose an obligation to actively consider, with an open mind, the possibility of such a remedy prior to imposition of an anti-dumping measure that would affect the essential interests of a developing country.⁶²

Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen

The rejection expressed in the European Communities' letter of 22 October 1997 does not, in our view, indicate that the possibility of an undertaking was explored, but rather that the possibility was rejected out of hand...the European Communities simply did nothing different in this case, than it would have done in any other anti-dumping proceeding...Pure passivity is not sufficient,

⁶¹ GATT Panel Report Imposition of Anti-Dumping Duties on Imports of Cotton Yarn from Brazil, adopted by ADP Committee, October 30 1995, ADP/137 42S/17

⁶² Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 6.233, footnote omitted

in our view, to satisfy the obligation to “explore” possibilities of constructive remedies, particularly where the possibility of an undertaking has already been broached by the developing country concerned.⁶³

6.3 Constructive Remedies

The Panel further ruled that ‘constructive remedies’ could take the form of acceptance of undertakings or application of a lesser duty rule. On the other hand, according to the Panel, a decision not to impose an anti-dumping duty on a developing country was not required as constructive remedy.

6.4 Timing

As Article 15 provides that constructive remedies must be explored before *applying anti-dumping duties*, the question also arose whether the remedies must be explored before provisional or definitive measures are imposed. In this regard, the Panel held that the obligation arises only before definitive measures are imposed.

6.5 Test Your Understanding

- 1. What special obligation under the ADA do developed countries have if they wish to impose anti-dumping measures on developing countries?**
- 2. When does this obligation arise?**
- 3. Do you agree with the findings of the Panel?**

⁶³ Panel Report, EC-Bed Linen, para. 6.238.

7. CASE STUDY

Country A is a WTO Member. Alfa bikes and Zeta wheels are the largest producers of bicycles in the country. They produce mainly (90 per cent) mountain bikes.

Alfa bikes and Zeta wheels represent 85 per cent of the domestic industry. Their production is almost entirely destined for export. Domestic sales of bicycles represent 4.9 per cent of the total production. In particular, out of the total production of mountain bikes, domestic sales amount to only 3.8 per cent; 60 per cent are exports to the large neighbouring country E; and the remaining production is exported to a few other medium-sized markets.

Labour is relatively cheap in country A and, due to a recent devaluation of the national currency, exports are increasing.

In the neighbouring WTO Member country E, there are seven major bicycle producers that have traditionally dominated the market. The overall economic trend in country E starts to weaken, and the market for bicycles experiences a slump. In particular, the domestic producers face declining market shares and decreasing profits.

Four out of the seven major producers, representing 55 per cent of the total production, file a complaint before the competent authorities claiming that the bicycles from country A, in particular mountain bikes, are being dumped in country E's market.

The competent authorities examine the facts and make a preliminary determination that there is sufficient evidence to start an anti-dumping investigation based on the information available in the complaint. The authorities define the product concerned as 'mountain bike' bicycles.

You have been requested by Alfa bikes and Zeta wheels to prepare a report on the likelihood of an anti-dumping measure.

- (a) How would you establish the *normal value* in country A for the product concerned? The following information relating to domestic sales made in the ordinary course of trade is provided by the producers in country A in their questionnaire responses:

Product concerned:	Cost of production	Domestic SGA	Profits	Domestic Price (1 st independent customer)
Mountain bikes				
Alfa bikes	22/unit	3/unit	10,7%	28/unit
Zeta wheels	20/unit	4/unit	7.6%	26/unit

- (b)** For Alpha bikes the ex factory *export price* of the product concerned to country E (1st independent buyer) has been established to be 26 in the first half of the IP, and 22 in the second half of the IP due to the devaluation of the currency in country A. How would you calculate the dumping margin based on a fair comparison?
- (c)** With regard to the injury calculation, the competent authorities indicate that they will use data pertaining to the overall production of bicycles as a group, and not only to mountain bikes. What is your opinion on this?

8. FURTHER READING

- **Horlick, G and Clarke, P**, Standards for Panels Reviewing Anti-Dumping Determinations under the GATT and the WTO, in *International Trade Law and the GATT/WTO Dispute Settlement System*, 1997, (ed. Petersmann 1997).
- **Jackson, J, and Vermulst, E, (editors)**, *Anti-Dumping Law and Practice: A Comparative Analysis* University of Michigan Press 1989.
- **Koulen, M**, The New Anti-Dumping Code Through Its Negotiating History, in *The Uruguay Round Results*, 1995, 151-233 (Eds. Bourgeois, Berrod, Gippini Fournier).
- **Miranda, J, Torres, R and Ruiz, M**, The International Use of Anti Dumping—1987-1997, 32:5 *Journal of World Trade*, 1998, 5–72.
- **UNCTAD**, The Impact of Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duty Actions on the Trade of Member States, In *Particular Developing Countries. Main Issues and Areas of Concern that Need to Be Addressed in the Light of Concrete Experiences Presented by National Experts*, Outcome of the Expert Meeting, TD/B/COM.1/EM.14/L.1, 12 December 2000.
- **UNCTAD**, Positive Agenda and Future trade Negotiations, Anti Dumping and Countervailing Duties, 2000, 287 – 308.
- **Vermulst, E and Graafsma, F**, WTO Dispute Settlement with respect to Commercial Defence Measures, Cameron May, forthcoming 2001.
- **Vermulst, E**, Adopting and Implementing Anti-Dumping Laws: Some Suggestions for Developing Countries, 31:2 *Journal of World Trade*, 1997, 5 – 24.

8.1 List of Relevant Panel and Appellate Body Reports

8.1.1 Appellate Body Reports

- Appellate Body Report, *Mexico – Anti – Dumping Investigation on High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) from the United States – Recourse to Article 21.5 of the DSU by the United States (Mexico – Corn Syrup (Article 21.5 – US))*, WT/DS132/AB/RW, adopted 21 November 2001.
- Appellate Body Report, *United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Products from Japan (US – Hot- Rolled Steel)*, WT/DS184/AB/R, adopted 23 August 2001.
- Appellate Body Report, *Thailand – Anti-Dumping Duties on Angels, Shapes and Sections of Iron or Non-Alloy Steel and H-Beams from Poland (Thailand – H-Beams)*, WT/DS122/AB/R, adopted 5 April 2001.
- Appellate Body Report, *European Communities – Anti-Dumping Duties on Imports of Cotton-Type Bed Linen from India (EC – Bed Linen)*, WT/DS141/AB/R, adopted 12 March 2001.

- Appellate Body Report, *United States – Anti-Dumping Act of 1916 (US – 1916 Act)* WT/DS136/AB/R, WT/DS162/AB/R, adopted 26 September 2000.
- Appellate Body Report, *Guatemala – Anti-Dumping Investigation Regarding Portland Cement from Mexico (Guatemala – Cement I)*, WT/DS60/AB/R, adopted 25 November 1998.

8.2 Panel Reports

- Panel Report, *United States - Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000*, WT/DS217/R, WTDS234/R, circulated 16 September 2002
- Panel Report, *Egypt – Definitive Anti-Dumping Measures on Steel Rebar from Turkey*, WT/DS211/R, circulated 8 August 2002
- Panel Report, *United States – Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Measures on Steel Plate from India*, WT/DS206/R/Corr.1, adopted 29 July 2002
- Panel Report, *United States – Section 129 (c) (1) of the Uruguay Round Agreement Act – Report of the Panel*, WT/DS221/R circulated 15 July 2002
- Panel Report, *Mexico – Anti – Dumping Investigation on High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) from the United States, (Mexico – Corn Syrup)*, WT/DS132/R and Corr. 1, adopted 21 November 2001, as modified by the Appellate Body Report WT/DS132/AB/RW.
- Panel Report, *Argentina-Definitive Anti-Dumping Measures on Imports of Ceramic Floor Tiles from Italy*, WT/DS189/R, adopted 5 November 2001
- Panel Report, *United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Hot Rolled Steel Products from Japan (US – Hot- Rolled Steel)*, WT/DS184/R, adopted 23 August 2001, as modified by the Appellate Body Report WT/DS184/AB/R.
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