

**Law No. (2) of 2019**  
**on Supporting the competitiveness of national products**  
**and combating harmful practices to them in international trade**

**We, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar,**

Having perused the Constitution,

The Customs Law promulgated by Law No. (40) of 2002,

The unified law (regime) for combating dumping and for compensatory and preventive measures for the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council for the Arab States promulgated by Law No. (10) of 2013,

The agreement establishing the World Trade Organization and the multilateral trade agreements attached thereto, issued with the ratification of the accession of the State of Qatar thereto by Decree No. (24) of 1995,

The Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement and establishing the World Trade Organization and its annex (Trade Facilitation Agreement), issued with the ratification by Decree No. 81 of 2017,

The proposal of the Minister of Commerce and Industry,

The draft law submitted by the Council of Ministers,

And after taking the opinion of the Shura Council,

Have decided the following law:

**Article 1**

In implementing the provisions of this law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings indicated next to each of them, unless the context requires another meaning:

**Ministry:** The Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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**Competent Department:** The competent administrative unit in the Ministry.

**The Committee:** The Committee for Supporting Competitiveness of National Products and Combating Practices Harmful to them in International Trade, as stipulated in Article (3) of this Law.

**Organization:** World Trade Organization.

**Dumping:** The export of a product into the country at an export price less than the normal value of the similar product in the exporting country in the normal course of trade.

**Dedicated subsidy:** A financial contribution, or any form of support, provided by the government of the country of origin or from a public authority or institution or government agency in that country, in a dedicated manner, that would support income or prices in accordance with the provisions of the organization's agreements, and result in achieving a benefit for the recipient of the support.

**Increase in imports:** The supply of a product to the country in increasing quantities, in absolute or relative terms in relation to the production of national products, and under conditions that would cause serious harm to national products or threaten to occur thereto.

**Harmful Practices in International Trade:** Dumping practices, dedicated subsidies, and increased imports.

**Measures:** Anti-dumping measures, countervailing measures, and preventive measures, whether temporary or final.

**Anti-dumping measures:** The measures taken to counter dumping.

**Remedy measures:** Actions taken to counter the allocated subsidy.

**Preventive measures:** Measures taken to counter the increase in imports.

**Provisional measures:** Actions that are taken on an interim basis during the investigation period and upon temporary positive results.

**Final measures:** Actions taken after the completion of the investigation and upon reaching final positive results.

**Complaint:** A written request submitted to the competent department.

**National Products:** The sum of what is produced in the country for similar products, or which constitute a large percentage of the gross national product, of these products in the anti-dumping investigations and the allocated subsidies.

In achieving the increase in imports, the national products mean the sum of what is produced in the country from the similar or competing product directly, or which constitute a large percentage of the gross national product of this product from similar or directly competing products.

**Similar products:** products that are identical or similar to the product under investigation in all respects, or any other products whose specifications closely resemble the specifications or characteristics of the product under investigation in the absence of this product.

**Damage:** In anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations, it means the material damage or threat to occur thereto, or the material impediment to the creation of national products; and damage in the increase in imports investigations means the occurrence of serious harm or threat to occur to national products.

**Threat of harm:** Impending harm that results in an effective weakening to the domestic products.

**Normal value:** The amount paid or the price to be paid for a similar product in the normal course of trade when it is destined for consumption in the country of export.

**Export price:** The amount paid, or the price to be paid for the product under investigation, by the importer when sold by the exporting country.

**Margin of dumping:** The result of the difference between the normal value and the export price during the period under investigation.

**Amount of subsidy:** The amount that represents the benefit that accrues to the recipient of support during the period under investigation.

## **Article 2**

The provisions of this law shall be applied in a manner that does not conflict with the provisions of the Organization's agreements.

## **Article 3**

A committee called the "Committee for Supporting Competitiveness of National Products and Combating Practices Harmful to them in International Trade" shall be established at the Ministry. It shall be formed by a decision of the Prime Minister upon the proposal of the Minister, consisting of members with expertise in the field of the Organization's agreements, and representatives of the ministries and relevant authorities.

The secretariat of the committee shall be undertaken by one or more employees of the Ministry, whose assignment, terms of reference and remuneration shall be issued by a decision of the Minister.

## **Article 4**

The committee shall be responsible for the following:

- 1- Examine complaints related to the violation of the provisions of this law, and conduct the necessary investigation thereon.
- 2- Prepare a report on the results of the investigation into harmful practices in international trade, and propose provisional and final measures and price pledges necessary to support the competitiveness of national products.
- 3- Prepare an integrated database and information about the committee's work, update and develop it, and conduct studies and research necessary for the committee's work.
- 4- Issue a periodical bulletin containing recommendations, procedures and measures to be taken based on the committee's recommendation, and other matters related to its affairs.

## **Article 5**

- 1- A producer of a national product, or his representative, may file a complaint with the competent department against harmful practices in international trade, and the department shall record the complaints it receives in a register prepared for this purpose, and the department shall present the complaints to the committee in the order in which they are received.
- 2- The complaint shall be submitted on the form prepared for this purpose at the competent department, enclosed with the supporting documents.

## **Article 6**

The committee, upon the approval of the Minister, and without receiving a complaint, may initiate an investigation against harmful practices in international trade if it has sufficient evidence of the existence of practices causing harm to national products.

#### **Article 7**

The committee shall undertake the investigation of the complaint in accordance with the provisions of this law, provided that the investigation period does not exceed twelve months from the date of the start of the investigation. The parties concerned with or participating in the investigation must provide the necessary evidence and information thereof, and the committee may hear the statements of all parties and discuss them regarding the evidence and information provided.

The committee may enable those parties to access any information or evidence related to the investigation if it is confidential.

In the event that the investigation cannot be completed within the period referred to in the previous paragraph, the committee may extend it for a period of six months after the approval of the minister.

The committee shall submit its recommendations to the minister.

#### **Article 8**

The measures stipulated in this law shall be taken in any of the following cases:

- 1- It is proved that the products under investigation were received at dumped prices, or special support was provided to them, and caused material damage to existing national products, or threatened such damage, or would cause any impediment or material delay in the creation of national products with the existence of a causal relationship between them.
- 2- Proving the provision of prohibited dedicated support for the products under investigation, subject to the provisions of the Organization's agreements.
- 3- It is proved that the products under investigation are supplied to the state in increasing quantities, whether in absolute or relative terms, and under conditions that cause serious harm to national firms that directly produce similar or competing products or threaten to inflict such damage with the existence of a causal relationship between them.

#### **Article 9**

It is permissible by a decision of the Minister, based on the committee's recommendation, and in a manner that does not conflict with the agreements issued

by the Organization, to take any of the measures stipulated in the Organization's agreements; and this includes in particular the following measures:

- 1- Anti-dumping measures and provisional countervailing measures, in the form of imposing fees, price pledges, or taking provisional anti-dumping guarantees or subsidies, in a way that does not exceed the margin of dumping or the amount of subsidy initially allocated.
- 2- Provisional preventive measures in the form of temporary protective fees against an increase in imports.
- 3- Anti-dumping measures and final countervailing measures, in the form of imposing duties, not to exceed the dumping margin or the definitive amount of subsidy.
- 4- Final preventive measures against an increase in imports in the form of quantitative restrictions, fees or others.
- 5- Anti-dumping measures and final remedy measures, in the form of price pledges in accordance with the Organization's agreements.

The fees referred to in this article take the form of customs duties and are imposed in addition to the ordinary customs duties.

#### **Article 10**

The Council of Ministers, upon the proposal of the Minister and the recommendation of the Committee, may take any measures it deems necessary to support the competitiveness of the national product in the face of products imported from non-member states of the Organization, including imposing fees to the extent necessary to achieve this goal.

#### **Article 11**

The person concerned may appeal against the minister's decisions issued in accordance with the provisions of this law, within thirty days from the date of publication of the decision, or from the date the person concerned is notified thereof, with his knowledge of the decision(s) proven with certainty.

The minister decides on the grievance within thirty days from the date of its submission, and the elapse of this period without deciding on the grievance is considered an implicit refusal thereof.

#### **Article 12**

In the event that the investigations are completed and final measures are not taken, the competent department shall return what has been collected of fees, cash deposits, bonds, etc.

### **Article 13**

The committee shall prepare an annual report on the results of its work, activities and proposals, and submit it to the minister, who submit the same to the Council of Ministers along with supporting proposals.

### **Article 14**

The executive regulations of this law shall determine the provisions related to the following:

- 1- The provisions governing the work of the committee.
- 2- Procedures for submitting a complaint and deciding thereon.
- 3- Conditions, controls and procedures for investigating harmful practices in international trade.
- 4- Conditions and controls for taking provisional and final measures and price undertakings regarding harmful practices in international trade.

### **Article 15**

The Minister shall issue the executive regulations and decisions necessary to implement the provisions of this law.

### **Article 16**

All competent authorities, each within its jurisdiction, shall implement this law; and it shall be published in the Official Gazette.