

**REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
Directorate General of Exports**

Reference : 69000267-140-02
Subject : Safeguard Inquiry on Imports of Processed Tomato Products

July 10, 2013

Australian Government
Productivity Commission
Level 2, 15 Moore Street
Canberra City ACT 2600, Australia

Dear Sirs,

Directorate General of Exports of Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Turkey presents its compliments to the Australian Government, Productivity Commission.

A safeguard investigation was initiated by your Esteemed Commission against imports of "Canned Tomatoes" on 21 June 2013. The notification regarding the initiation of the safeguard investigation was circulated by World Trade Organization (WTO) on 28 June 2013 under the title G/SG/N/6/AUS/3.


According to the statistical data concerning "Canned Tomatoes" published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics trade data, annual Australian imports from Turkey between the years 2006-2012 have always been below 3% of its total imports of the aforementioned product (2006-1,5%; 2007-1,5%; 2008-48%; 2009-43%; 2010-0,3%; 2011-0,4%; and 2012-0,4% respectively).

We would like to bring to your attention that "*Safeguard measures shall not be applied against a product originating in a developing country Member as long as its share of imports of the product concerned in the importing Member does not exceed 3 per cent, provided that developing country Members with less than 3 per cent import share collectively account for not more than 9 per cent of total imports of the product concerned.*" according to Article 9.1 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards.

We hope that "Canned Tomatoes" products imported from Turkey will be assessed consistent with the criteria mentioned in the Article 9.1 of WTO Agreement on Safeguards and not be included in the Safeguard Inquiry on Imports of Processed Tomato Products referred to your Esteemed Commission by the Ministry of Trade and Competitiveness.

On this Occasion, Our Directorate cordially extends its best regards to the Australian Government, Productivity Commission and we look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,


Tarık SÖNMEZ
On Behalf of the Minister
Director General
Directorate General of Exports