

Brussels, 21st May 2019

To: DG TRADE (TRADE-AD655-GFR-INJURY@ec.europa.eu)
O/Re: 05E19/VF/AF

Position Statement

AD 655 – Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of certain filament glass fibre products originating in Bahrain and Egypt

About Glass Alliance Europe

Glass Alliance Europe is the European Alliance of Glass Industries. It has the unique feature of regrouping all the glass industries to work on common issues. It is composed of 14 national glass associations and of the five main sectors of the glass industries. It represents an annual glass production in Europe of about 35 million tonnes and providing more than 183,000 direct jobs.

These sectors are very different, be it in terms of manufacturing process, products, markets, economics of the sectors and manufacturers, but they all have in common to transform raw materials into glass by a process of melting.

In addition, thanks to the unlimited opportunities offered by the glass substance, all sectors are characterized by heavy investments in research and development to make available glass products fit for a sustainable, resource-efficient, low-carbon, healthy and culturally vibrant European society.

Glass Alliance Europe and GRP – Glass Fibre Reinforced Plastic

GRPs are critical materials for Europe's future as they are key inputs for many innovative and environmentally-friendly applications such as lighter and fuel-efficient vehicles and planes. GRP is an expanding European market which accounted for an estimated 1.08 million MT in 2018.

Glass Alliance Europe is concerned that domestic European glass fibre manufacturers have lost production, sales and market shares in recent years, in the face of increasing competition from third countries, notably China, Bahrain and Egypt. Glass Alliance Europe believes that the existence of a competitive, viable and sustainable European glass fibre industry is a critical element of the GRP composite value chain. Glass Alliance Europe believes that European glass fibre manufacturers provide an important local source of glass fibre, customer choice and innovation.

Glass Alliance Europe and anti-dumping investigation of glass fibre imports from Bahrain and Egypt

Glass Alliance Europe notes that the European Commission has received a request to conduct an anti-dumping investigation pursuant to Article 5 of Council Regulation 2016/1036 into imports of certain filament glass fibre products from Bahrain and Egypt. We understand that the request was lodged by GlassFibreEurope.

Glass Alliance Europe believes that GlassFibreEurope has a legitimate right to defend its industry's interests. Glass Alliance Europe supports a thorough independent investigation by the European Commission to ascertain if glass fibre producers in Bahrain and Egypt are causing material injury to the EU industry by selling their products on the EU market at dumped and undercutting prices.

Glass Alliance Europe's core mission is to advocate for a balanced EU legislative environment for the glass industry. Glass Alliance Europe thus supports the existence of a viable and sustainable European glass fibre industry. Therefore, if the European Commission finds that producers in Bahrain and Egypt compete unfairly according to WTO and EU principles, then the EU must impose adequate and effective trade measures to create a level playing field for European producers.

Yours sincerely,



Adeline FARRELLY,
Secretary-General.

About Glass Alliance Europe - EU Transparency Register N° 74505036439-88

Glass Alliance Europe is the European Alliance of Glass Industries. It is composed of 14 national glass associations and of the five main sectors of the glass industries: container glass, flat glass, special glass, domestic glass and continuous filament glass fibres. Over Europe, the glass industry comprises more than 500 plants providing 500,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Europe is the world leader in glass making. Glass is a unique and inert material made from abundant natural resources and fully recyclable. It is a key contributor to the EU objectives of a low-carbon, energy-efficient and circular economy, and a key enabling material for essential supply chains, such as the pharmaceutical and health sector, the food and drink industry, buildings and construction, automotive, luxury goods and perfumes, electronics, etc.