PRESS RELEASE – 13 February 2024

ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES ON IMPORTS OF CERAMIC TILES FROM CHINA

The European Union published today the Implementing Regulation renewing anti-dumping duties on imports of ceramic tiles originating in China.

On 13 February 2024, the European Commission adopted Regulation (EU) 2024/493, renewing EU antidumping measures on imports of Chinese ceramic wall and floor tiles for an additional five years. CET/Cerame-Unie welcomes the decision to renew the anti-dumping duties, which have been proven to be necessary to prevent further injury to the Union industry resulting dumped imports from China.

The EU ceramic tiles industry represents an annual turnover of EUR 13.6 billion, with manufacturers in 25 EU Member States providing 55,000 direct jobs. 80% of the industry is composed of SMEs playing an essential role in employment at local level. The EU industry is globally renowned for its quality, advanced production technologies and innovation & design.

Following the request of the Union Industry, the European Commission's Directorate General for Trade initiated in November 2022 an investigation to review the duties on imports of Chinese ceramic tiles, in force since September 2011 and ranging between 13.9% and 69.7%.

As revealed over the course of the investigation and as laid out in the Regulation, continued dumping and high spare capacities in the PRC, coupled with the attractiveness of the EU market to Chinese exporters, would result in all likelihood in a recurrence of injury to the Union industry should the measures be repealed. On this basis, the anti-dumping measures were renewed for an additional 5 years. These findings underscore the vital importance of the level playing field for the European ceramic tiles industry.

As highlighted in the <u>Ceramic Manifesto 24-29</u>, a rules-based international order remains crucial to ensure that all EU producers can benefit from a level playing field. CET President Roman Blažíček welcomes the decision of the Commission, stating that "an effective use of trade defence measures by the EU is essential to fight unfair trading practices and preserve the conditions to enable the necessary investments for a just transition".

This is also reflected in the Commission's Communication of 1 February 2023 on the Green Deal Industrial Plan, where it is stated that "The Commission will continue to make full use of trade defence instruments (TDI) to defend the Single Market, and rules-based international trade, from unfair trade practices like dumping and distortive subsidies".

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