

## FOREIGN TRADE\*

April 2005

This **Foreign Trade Report** is an executive summary of the main foreign trade reforms in Mexico published in the Federal Official Gazette during March 2005, which also contains general foreign trade news that will impact Mexican foreign trade. For further information on the topics addressed in this paper or for any questions arising from it, please write to Adrián Vázquez Benítez, [adrian@vazqueztercero.com](mailto:adrian@vazqueztercero.com) or to Verónica Vázquez Bravo, [veronica@vazqueztercero.com](mailto:veronica@vazqueztercero.com)

### 1. Exhibits to the RCGMCE for 2005

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On April 4, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP) published in the Federal Official Gazette, Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 21, 25, 27, 28 and 29 to the 2005 Foreign Trade Rules (*Reglas de Carácter General en Materia de Comercio Exterior para 2005*), which were published on March 23, 2005. Likewise, on April 6, Exhibit 1 was published, and on April 8, Exhibits 18 and 22 were published.

### 2. Resolution on the revocation action submitted against the final resolution on coverage of stroller products

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On April 5, the Ministry of Economy (SE) published in the Federal Official Gazette, the Resolution that resolves the administrative revocation action submitted by the Mexican Association of Infant Products (*Asociación Mexicana de Productos Infantiles, A.C.*) against the final resolution issued on the administrative proceedings on product coverage related to the final resolution that imposed countervailing duties on the importation of strollers, which goods are currently classified under tariff heading 8715.00.01 of the TIGIE, which originate from the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. The resolution issued provides that strollers model Global of the Maclaren brand are not multi-purpose strollers, and, accordingly, they will be subject to countervailing duties equal to 105.85%

Our Firm successfully represented the Mexican Association of Infant Products.

### 3. Amendments to the agreement on the prior permit requirement

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On April 6, the SE published in the Federal Official Gazette the Agreement that amends a similar agreement that provides the classification and codification of goods the importation and exportation of which is subject to obtaining a prior permit from the SE, in order to add petroleum oil preparations that are classified under tariff headings 2710.19.04 (gasoil or diesel oil and its preparations), 2710.19.08 (lighting petroleum (kerosene) and its preparations) and elimination of heading 2710.11.06 (paraffin oil).

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**4. Resolution on the initiation of an antidumping investigation on leather and other container goods from China**

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On April 6, the SE published in the Federal Official Gazette the Resolution on initiation of the antidumping investigation on the importation of several articles of leather and similar products, such as, cases, briefcases, handbags, satchels, wallets and purses, which goods are classified under various tariff subheadings of heading 4202 of the TIGIE, from the People's Republic of China. The period of the investigation was set at that comprised between January 1 and December 31, 2003.

Our Firm is currently representing several importers of such products.

**5. Rules for procedures conducted before the SE**

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On April 19, the SE published in the Federal Official Gazette the agreement whereby it promulgates the General Rules for Procedures conducted through the use of electronic media before the SE, decentralized entities and auxiliary entities thereof, and established the technological mechanisms that allow for reception, through electronic communications, of applications or requests and procedures submitted by individuals.

It is worth noting that persons who obtained their business access code to the procedures information system (CAESIT) prior to the date provided by transitory article four of the Credited Individuals Registry (RUPA) for the submission of foreign trade procedures located at <http://www.economia.gob.mx>, shall maintain such access code in full force, and may continue to utilize it until the digital certificate is issued.

**6. Resolution on the initiation of the antidumping investigation on toothbrushes that originate from China**

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On April 26, the SE published in the Federal Official Gazette the initiation of the antidumping investigation on the importation of toothbrushes, which goods are currently classified under tariff heading 9603.21.01 of the TIGIE, from the People's Republic of China. The period of the investigation was set at that comprised between June 1, 2003 and May 31, 2004.

Our Firm will also participate in the representation of several importers of toothbrushes for babies.

**7. Sixth Ministerial Conference of the WTO**

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The WTO has announced that the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the WTO shall be held in Hong Kong, China, from December 13-18, 2005, and we call upon the country's productive sectors to participate in such event through our Firm, where we can participate as a non-governmental organization. Our Firm was present during the Fifth Ministerial Conference that was held in Mexico in 2003. ■