

GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION

NOTICE 3831 OF 2026

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION OF SOUTH AFRICA

APPLICATION FOR AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON NEWSPRINTS, IN ROLLS OR SHEETS, CLASSIFIABLE IN TARIFF SUBHEADING 4801.00, FROM FREE OF DUTY TO 5% AD VALOREM DUTY.

APPLICANT: SAPPI SOUTHERN AFRICA LIMITED
108 Oxford Road
Rosebank
Johannesburg
2198

As motivation for the application, the Applicant submitted, *inter alia*, that:

- *Globally, the newsprint market has been in prolonged decline, driven primarily by digital migration, which has reduced demand for paper publications. Despite this trend, newsprint remains an important medium in developing countries such as South Africa, where electronic connectivity is not universal.*
- *With global overcapacity and increasing low-priced imports, Sappi's Ngodwana Mill (PM2 machine) has faced persistent financial losses. Without the requested tariff intervention, the continued viability of South African newsprint manufacturing is at significant risk.*
- *Protection against low-priced imported newsprint is critical to maintain at Sappi's Ngodwana Mill (PM2 machine) operations, safeguard associated employment and support the national economy. Sappi's Ngodwana Mill (PM2 machine) is the only operational newsprint facility in South Africa and the SACU region.*
- *Therefore, this application seeks to ensure the long-term viability of newsprint manufacturing at Sappi's Ngodwana Mill (PM2 machine), while allowing the company to expand into alternative packaging products.*

ITAC Ref: 11/2025 **Enquiries:** Mr. Joseph Mawasha at jmawasha@itac.org.za, Mr Scelo Mshengu at smshengu@itac.org.za and Mr Sipho Tshabalala at stshabalala@itac.org.za.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted to the above ITAC officials within **four (4) weeks** of the date of this notice.