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3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-230]

Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (Tris) from the People's Republic of China (China) is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is October 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Monica Gillis or Colin Thrasher, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-6384 or (202) 482-3004, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on May 18, 2026.[1] On September 4, 2026, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation and the deadline is now November 17, 2026.[2]

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[1] *See Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation* 91 FR 28566 (May 18, 2026) (*Initiation Notice*).

[2] *See Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane from the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation*, 91 FR 56860 (September 4, 2026).

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.[3] A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access.trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/frnotices.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is Tris from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the preamble to Commerce's regulations,[4] the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (scope).[5] No interested party commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. Accordingly, Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Commerce has calculated export prices in accordance with section 772(a) of the Act. Commerce has calculated constructed export prices in accordance with section 772(b) of the Act. Because China is a non-market economy (NME), within the meaning of section 771(18) of the Act, Commerce has calculated normal value in accordance with section 773(c) of the Act. Further,

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[3] *See* Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane from the People's Republic of China," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).
[4] *See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties*, *Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).
[5] *See Initiation Notic*e.

pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, Commerce preliminarily has relied upon facts otherwise available, with adverse inferences, for the China-wide entity.[6]

Separate Rates

We have preliminarily granted a separate rate to one company that we did not select for individual examination, Suzhou Genemill Biotechnology Co. Ltd. (Genemill Biotechnology).[7] In calculating the rate for non-individually examined separate rate respondents in an NME LTFV investigation, Commerce normally looks to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, which pertains to the calculation of the all-others rate in a market economy LTFV investigation, for guidance.[8] Pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, normally this rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for those companies individually examined, excluding zero and *de minimis* dumping margins, and any dumping margins based entirely under section 776 of the Act. Commerce calculated individual estimated weighted-average dumping margins for Hubei Grand Fuchi Import and Export Co., Ltd. (Grand Fuchi) and Suzhou Yacoo Science Co., Ltd. (Suzhou Yacoo) that are not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available. Thus, the weighted-average dumping margin calculated for Genemill Biotechnology is the weighted average of the dumping margins established for Grand Fuchi and Suzhou Yacoo.[9] *See* the table below in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice.

Combination Rates

[6] For a full description of the methodology underlying Commerce's preliminary determination, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.
[7] *See* Preliminary Decision Memorandum.
[8] *See* 19 CFR 351.109(g) (stipulating that in determining the non-selected separate rate, Commerce follows the methodology outlined in 19 CFR 351.109(f)(1)-(2), which parallels the methodology described in section 735(c)(5) of the Act).
[9] For further discussion of the calculation of this rate, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

In the *Initiation Notice*,[10] Commerce stated that it would calculate producer/exporter combination rates for the respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in this investigation. Policy Bulletin 05.1 describes this practice.[11]

Preliminary Determination

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Producer	Exporter	Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)	Cash Deposit Rate (Adjusted for Subsidy Offset(s)) (percent)
Jining Yacoo New Materials Technology Co., Ltd.	Suzhou Yacoo Science Co., Ltd.	9.07	9.07
Henan Sitong New Material Co., Ltd.	Hubei Grand Fuchi Import and Export Co., Ltd	129.46	129.46
Shandong Haohai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	Suzhou Genemill Biotechnology Co. Ltd.	18.60	18.60
China-Wide Entity		132.59*	132.59

* Rate is based on facts available with adverse inferences

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of subject merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*, as discussed below. Further, pursuant to section 733(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the weighted average amount by which normal value exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above as follows: (1) for the producer/exporter combinations listed in the table above, the cash deposit rate is equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed for that combination in the table; (2) for all combinations of

[10] *See Initiation Notice*, 91 FR at 28569.

[11] *See* Enforcement and Compliance's Policy Bulletin No. 05.1, regarding, "Separate-Rates Practice and Application of Combination Rates in Antidumping Investigations involving Non-Market Economy Countries," (April 5, 2005), available on Commerce's website at https://www.trade.gov/enforcement-and-compliance-policy-bulletins-0.

China producers/exporters of merchandise under consideration that have not established eligibility for their own separate rates, the cash deposit rate will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for the China-wide entity; and (3) for all third county exporters of merchandise under consideration not listed in the table above, the cash deposit rate is the cash deposit rate applicable to the China producer/exporter combination (or the China-wide entity) that supplied that third country exporter.

To determine the cash deposit rate, Commerce normally adjusts the estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the amount of domestic subsidy pass-through and export subsidies determined in a companion countervailing duty (CVD) proceeding when CVD provisional measures are in effect. Accordingly, where Commerce has made a preliminary affirmative determination for domestic subsidy pass-through or export subsidies, Commerce has offset the calculated estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the appropriate rate(s). However, Commerce has not adjusted these preliminary cash deposit rates for Genemill Biotechnology, Grand Fuchi, or Suzhou Yacoo because there were no export subsidies calculated for these companies in the companion CVD investigation and Commerce preliminarily determines that a domestic subsidy pass through adjustment is not warranted.[12] With respect to the China-wide entity, as AFA, the export subsidy offset is equal to the lowest of the export subsidy rates found for any company in the CVD preliminary determination (*i.e.*, zero percent).

These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with this preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement or, if

[12] *See Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, in Part, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination*, 91 FR 60585 (September 24, 2026); *see also* Preliminary Decision Memorandum at "Adjustment Under Section 777(A)(f) of the Act."

there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(e), Commerce will analyze and, if appropriate, correct any timely allegations of significant ministerial errors by amending the preliminary determination. However, consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(d), Commerce will not consider incomplete allegations that do not address the significance standard under 19 CFR 351.224(g) following the preliminary determination. Instead, Commerce will address such allegations in the final determination together with issues raised in the case briefs or other written comments.

Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify information relied upon in making its final determination.

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last final verification report is issued in this investigation. A timeline for the submission of case briefs and written comments will be provided to interested parties at a later date. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.[13] Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.[14]

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2)(iii) and (d)(2)(iii), we request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.[15] Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive

[13] *See* 19 CFR 351.309(d); *see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (*APO and Service Final Rule*).
[14] *See* 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2)
[15] We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).[16]

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, whether any participant is a foreign national, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioners. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), Commerce requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final antidumping determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

On November 16, 2026, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.210(e), Suzhou Yacoo requested that Commerce postpone the final determination and that provisional measures be extended to a

[16] *See APO and Service Final Rule.*

period not to exceed six months.[17] In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because: (1) the preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporter accounts for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, Commerce is postponing the final determination and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, Commerce will make its final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination.

U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of its preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of the subject merchandise are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: November 17, 2026.

Kasey O'Connor,
Deputy General Counsel,
performing the non-exclusive functions and duties
of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[17] *See* Suzhou Yacoo's Letter, "Request to Postpone Final Determination," dated November 16, 2026.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (Tris), also commonly referred to as tromethamine or THAM, and its derivative, tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane hydrochloride (Tris HCl), also commonly referred to as Tris hydrochloride or tromethamine HCl. Tris and Tris HCl are organic compounds with molecular compositions of $C_4H_{11}NO_3$ and $C_4H_{11}NO_3 \cdot ClH$, respectively. The scope includes all grades, purities, and forms of Tris and Tris HCl, which vary based on the raw materials (nitromethane and formaldehyde) used in the production process and the end use application required. Tris and Tris HCl are packaged and sold in different forms and sizes; however, all Tris and Tris HCl are covered regardless of form or packaging. The Tris and Tris HCl covered by this investigation are chemical compounds with the Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) numbers 77-86-1 and 1185-53-1, respectively. The country of origin of the subject merchandise in this investigation is based on the country where the Tris molecule is manufactured. As a result, Tris HCl manufactured in a third country using Tris produced in China is subject to the investigation. In addition, reprocessing Tris or Tris HCl in a third country by, for example, recrystallizing, retesting, or repackaging the merchandise does not remove the product from the scope of this investigation. Tris and Tris HCl covered by the scope of this investigation are currently classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 2922.19.9690. Although the HTSUS subheading and CAS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary
II. Background
III. Period of Investigation
IV. Discussion of the Methodology
V. Adjustment Under Section 777(A)(F) of the Act
VI. Currency Conversion
VII. Recommendation

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