

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/LTU/36

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**Working Party on the
Accession of Lithuania**

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ACCESSION OF LITHUANIA

Communication from Lithuania

The Permanent Mission of Lithuania has submitted the following information showing the progress in the adoption of legislation.

Agreements; other sectors related to	Legislation related to the regulation of the indicated sector	Status of indicated legislation
Customs Duties and Tariff Quotas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Customs Code of Lithuania of 18 April 1996; 2. Law on Customs Tariffs of 19 February 1998 (which replaced the Law of 27 April 1993); 3. Government Resolution No.1367 of 30 December 1994 On the Establishment of the Structure of Customs Tariffs; 4. Government Resolution No.653 of 8 May 1995 On the General Order of the Administration of Tariff Quotas for Implementation and Exportation of Goods; 5. Government Resolution No.806 of 24 July 1997 On the Tariff and Non-Tariff Regulation of Export and Import of Goods and Improvement of Establishment of Customs Tariffs and Procedure of Change; 6. Government Resolution No.268 of 24 March 1997 On the Procedure of Export and Import Regulation in the Republic of Lithuania; 7. Government Resolution No.1245 of 20 October 1998 Amending Government Resolution No.268 of 24 March 1997 On the Procedure of Export and Import Regulation in the Republic of Lithuania; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995 and December 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in April 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in April 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in May 1999;</p>
National Treatment; Internal Taxation and Trading Rights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Taxes and Profits of Legal Persons of 31 July 1990; 2. Law on Taxes on State Natural Resources of 21 March 1991; 3. Law on Value-Added-Tax of 22 December 1993 with amendments; 4. Law on Excise Taxes of 12 April 1994 (as amended on 20 October 1998 and on 21 December 1998 abolishing through transitional period the preferential excise tax treatment for small breweries); 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995 and March 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995, March 1998, February 1999 and May 1999;</p>

	<p>5. Draft Law on Amendment and Supplement to Law on Excise Taxes (for setting up the precise date of abolishing special treatment for small breweries - from 1 January 2000);</p> <p>6. Law on Stamp Duty of 23 June 1994;</p> <p>7. Government Resolution No.1296 of 4 November 1998 On the Procedure for Withholding and Refund of Excise Tax and Approval of the List of Products which Contains Sugar;</p> <p>8. Government Resolutions No.774 of 23 June 1998 and No.1169 of 29 September 1998 on the Amendment to Government Resolution No.1123 of 11 November 1994 On the Approval of Stamp Duty Rates and the Procedure for Payment and Refund of Stamp Duty (with the amendments for equalizing the stamp tax for the activity licencing in importation of tobacco products and importation/wholesale and wholesale of alcohol and alcoholic beverages);</p> <p>9. Government Resolution No.601 of 18 May 1999 On the Amendment to Government Resolution No.1123 of 11 November 1994 On the Approval of Stamp Duty Rates and the Procedure for Payment and Refund of Stamp Duty (for setting up the precise date for equalization of stamp taxes for the activity licencing - 1 January 2000) ¹</p> <p>10. Draft amendment of Government Resolution No.1123 of 11 November 1994 regarding equalization of stamp tax for the activity licence in importation/wholesale and wholesale of oil and products thereof;</p> <p>11. Information on consular fees levied in accordance with the Government Resolution No.1135 of 16 November 1994;</p>	<p>Draft law is already approved by the Government; the adoption in the Parliament is expected in July-August 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in May 1999;</p> <p>In the process of translation, expected time for submission - July-August 1999;</p> <p>Draft resolution submitted to the Government for the approval which is expected in June-July 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1998.</p>
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¹ For more comprehensive information on licensing activities see WT/ACC/LTU/19.

<p>Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures; Trading Rights</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Enterprises of 8 May 1990 (including provisions on activity licensing) with the appropriate amendments; 2. The Customs Code of Lithuania of 18 April 1996; 3. Law on Tobacco Control of 20 December 1995; 4. Law on Alcohol Control of 18 April 1995 as amended on 10 December 1998 to remove the import prohibition of alcoholic beverages with alcohol content of more than 50 per cent (inter alia "mead"); 5. Law concerning Control of Import, Transit and Export of Strategic Goods and Technologies of 5 July 1995; 6. Government Resolution No.718 of 19 May 1995 On the Restriction of Import of Certain Things (Goods) to the Republic of Lithuania; 7. Government Resolution No.1221 of 14 September 1995 On Licensing Wholesale and Retail Trade in Import and Export of Oil Products and Retail Trade in Liquid Gas; 8. Government Resolution No.559 of 5 June 1997 On Licensing Import, Wholesale and Retail Sale in Alcoholic Products which replaced Government Resolution No.1459 of 17 November 1995; 9. Government Resolution No.1622 of 27 December 1995 On Licensing the Production of Tobacco and its Products and their Import into the Republic of Lithuania; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995 and March 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in July 1996; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995, March 1998 and May 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in November 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in March 1996;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in March 1996 and April 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in March 1996;</p>
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<p>Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994 (customs valuation)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Customs Code of Lithuania of 18 April 1996; 2. Government Resolution No.449 of 16 June 1993 On the Approval of the Order of Customs Valuation of Goods; 3. Government Resolution No.751 of 25 June 1996 On the Customs Assessment of Prices for Imported Goods with the appropriate amendments; 4. Government Resolution No.748 of 9 June 1999 On the Approval of Order of Customs Valuation of Goods (new order fully conforming with WTO requirements); 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in July 1996;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997 and June 1998 (latest amendments are in the process of translation, expected time for submission June-July 1999); In the process of translation; submission expected in July-August 1999;</p>
<p>Agreement on Agriculture</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on State Regulation of Economic Relations in Agriculture of 22 December 1994 with amendments; 2. Law on Sugar of 27 April 1995; 3. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Law on Sugar eliminating appropriate provisions inconsistent with WTO rules; 4. Government Resolution No.788 of 30 June 1998 On the Approval of the Programme for the Regulation of Agricultural and Food Products Market and Export Promotion; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995 and March 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995;</p> <p>Draft law is already approved by the Government and submitted to the Parliament for the adoption; expected time for adoption - July 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in December 1998;</p>
<p>Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Tobacco Control of 20 December 1995; 2. Draft Law on Food; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in July 1996; Draft law currently is under the consideration by the Government, the adoption in the Parliament is expected before October 1999;</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Law on Veterinary Activities of 17 December 1991; 4. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Law on Veterinary Activities (supplementing provisions on the risk assessment based on SPS Agreement); 5. Law on Products Safety of 1 June 1999; 6. Law on Plant Protection of 19 October 1995; 7. Draft Law on Phytosanitary; 8. Law on Health System of 19 July 1994; 9. Law on Health Care Institutions of 6 June 1996 as amended by the Law of 24 June 1997; 10. Government Resolution No.1106 of 9 October 1997 On Approval of the Procedure of the Importation of Foodstuffs into the Republic of Lithuania and Control of their Quality and Non-Hazardness to Health; 11. Government Resolution No.284 of 27 April 1993 On Veterinary and Sanitary Requirements on Livestock, their Products, Raw Materials and Fodder Imported to the Republic of Lithuania and Transported as Transit through its Territory; 12. Government Resolution No.599 of 3 August 1993 On the Approval of Vegetable Quarantine Regulations for Import and Export of Goods of Vegetable Origin to and from the Republic of Lithuania and their Transit through the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania; 13. Government Resolution No. 384 of 25 March 1996 On the Approval of Quarantine Regulations for the Production, Transportation, Conservation Sale and Utilization of Plants and Plant Products on the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania; 14. Veterinary requirements of the Republic of Lithuania for import, export and transit of livestock, poultry, animal products, raw materials, feedstuffs; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999; Draft law is already approved by the Government and presented to the Parliament; adoption is expected before September 1999; In the process of translation, expected time for submission - July-August 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in July 1996; Draft law is in the final stage of consideration by the Government, the adoption in the Parliament is expected before September 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in April 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1998;</p>
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	<p><u>Participation in international organizations:</u> Membership of the OIE (Office International des Epizooties) from 1992; Membership of the Codex Alimentarius Commission from 1992; Membership of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Commission at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) from 1993; Membership of the EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization) from 1998; Preparation to ratify the IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention);</p> <p>for more comprehensive information see WT/ACC/LTU/22 Add.1 of 17 March 1999</p>	<p>Expected time for ratification August-September 1999;</p>
<p>Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Law on Standardization; 2. Law on Products Safety of 1 June 1999; 3. Law on Metrology of 9 July 1996; 4. Law on Conformity Assessment of 6 October 1998; 5. Government Resolution No.617 of 20 May 1999 On Rules Governing the Exchange of Information between Ministries Involved in Standards Issues and the Enquiry Point, including the Notification Requirements; 6. Code of Good Practice accepted by National Standardization Board on 2 April 1999; 	<p>Draft law is submitted to the Government, the adoption in Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;</p> <p>In the process of translation; expected time for submission - July-August 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1999;</p> <p>In the process of translation, expected time for submission - July-August 1999;</p> <p>In the process of translation, expected time for submission - September 1999;</p>

	<p><u>Participation in international organizations:</u> An affiliate membership of the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) from 1997; An affiliate membership of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) from 1994; Membership in the European Telecommunication Standards Institute (ETSI) from 1996; Correspondent membership in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) from 1992; An associated membership in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) from 1996; Correspondent membership in the Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) from 1994.</p>	
<p>Agreement on Rules of Origin</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Customs Code of Lithuania of 18 April 1996; 2. Government Resolution No.1077 of 1 October 1997 On the Order of Determination of Non-Preferential Origin of Goods; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997; In the process of translation, submission is expected in July-August 1999;</p>
<p>Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures; Agreement on Safeguards; Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 94 (on antidumping measures)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Anti-dumping of 23 June 1998; 2. Draft Law on Safeguards; 3. Draft Law on Countervailing Measures; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in December 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;</p>

Agreement on Government Procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Public Procurement of 13 August 1996; 2. Draft of new Law on Public Procurement; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in October-November 1999;</p>
General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Foreign Capital Investment in the Republic of Lithuania of 13 June 1995; 2. Law on Insurance of 10 July 1996 which replaced the Law of 20 September 1990; 3. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Law on Insurance (eliminates reciprocity requirement for WTO members) ; 4. Law on Telecommunications of 9 June 1998; 5. Law on Public Trading of Securities of 16 January 1996; 6. Law on Commercial Banks of 21 December 1994; 7. Law on Foreigners Legal Basis of 17 December 1998; 8. Draft Law on Audit; 9. Law on Health System of 19 July 1994; 10. Law on Health Care Institutions of 6 June 1996; as amended by the Law of 24 June 1997; 11. Law on Tourism of 19 March 1998; 12. Law on Public Procurement of 13 August 1996; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in July 1996 and February 1997;</p> <p>Draft law submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in December 1998;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in September 1995;</p> <p>In the process of translation, expected time for of submission - September 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1997;</p>

	13. Draft of new Law on Public Procurement;	Draft law submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in September-October 1999;
Agreement on TRIPS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law on Competition of 23 March 1999; 2. Law on Copyright and Related Rights of 18 May 1999; 3. Law on Trademarks and Service Marks of 3 June 1993; 4. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Law on Trade Marks and Service Marks (amendments include measures which are prohibited to use in connection with geographical indications (terms as “kind”, “style”, “like”, etc.); 5. Law on Industrial Design of 4 July 1995; 6. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Law on Industrial Design (amendment is not essential: the term “accumulate for market”, which was used in the Law should be changed into term “selling” used in the TRIPS Agreement); 7. Patent Law of 18 January 1994; 8. Draft Law on the Amendment and Supplement to the Patent Law (amendment to allow patent owner to prohibit the sale of a patented products; amendment to provide specific occasions when a non-exclusive compulsory license may be granted; amendment to allow invalidation of a compulsory license); 9. Law on Protection of Plant Varieties and Seed Cultivation of 17 September 1996; 10. Law on the Legal Protection of Topographies and Semiconductor Products of 16 June 1998; 11. Law on the Legal Protection of Computer Programs and Databases of 30 January 1996; 	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in May 1999; In the process of translation, submission is expected in June-July 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Draft law is submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in October-November 1999; Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1996;</p> <p>Draft law is submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption in the Parliament is expected in October-November 1999</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995</p> <p>Draft law is submitted to the Government for the approval; the adoption in the Parliament is expected in October-November 1999;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in June 1997;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in February 1999; Submitted to the WTO in February 1997;</p>

	<p>12. Draft Law on the Protection of Intellectual Property for Imported and Exported Goods;</p> <p>13. Civil Code of Lithuania of 7 July 1964 as amended by 17 May 1994;</p> <p>14. Code of Civil Process of Lithuania of 7 July 1964;</p> <p>15. Code of Administrative Infringements of 13 December 1984;</p> <p>16. Criminal Code of Lithuania 26 June 1961;</p> <p>17. Draft Law on Amendment and Supplement to the Criminal Code (improvements);</p> <p>18. Code of Criminal Process of Lithuania of 26 June 1961;</p> <p>19. Draft Law on Amendment and Supplement to the Code of Criminal Process (improvements);</p> <p><u>Participation in international fora:</u> Membership in the Berne Convention from 1994; Membership in the Patent Cooperation Treaty from 1994; Membership in the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro-organism for the Purposes of the Patent Procedure from 1998; Membership in the Trademark Law Treaty from 1998;²</p>	<p>Draft is submitted to the Government for the approval, the expected time for adoption in September-October 1999;</p> <p>General provisions on legal matters affected;</p> <p>Covers the courts subject to the jurisdiction of related cases;</p> <p>Covers the liability executed illegal actions;</p> <p>Covers the liability executed illegal actions;</p> <p>Draft is submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption is expected in September-October 1999;</p> <p>Covers the courts subject to the jurisdiction of related cases;</p> <p>Draft is submitted to the Government for the approval, the adoption is expected in September-October 1999;</p>
<p>Competition Policy</p>	<p>1. Law on Price of 26 July 1990;</p> <p>2. Law on Competition of 23 March 1999;</p>	<p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in January 1995;</p> <p>Submitted to the WTO Secretariat in May 1999;</p>

² For more comprehensive information see WT/ACC/SPEC/LTU/8/Rev.4.