

**Committee on Agriculture**

**NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND FORMATS**

**(Adopted by the Committee at its meeting on 8 June 1995)**

The following tables set out the requirements and formats for notifications under Article 18:2 and other relevant provisions of the Agreement on Agriculture. Each table or set of tables is preceded by notes indicating which Members are required to notify, at what frequency and in what manner.

Notifications to the Committee should be accompanied by a diskette containing the same information in Lotus format (tables) or Word Perfect format (text).

Elements of the notification in text form (e.g. descriptions of policies) will be translated into the official languages.

	Page
Market access	
Tariff and other quotas	2
Social safeguard provisions	5
Domestic support	
Current Total AMS	11
New or modified exempt measures	22
Export Subsidies	24
Export Restrictions	31
Follow-up to the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries	33

Information submitted under these formats is without prejudice to the consistency of the arrangements notified with the relevant provisions of the WTO.

## **TARIFF AND OTHER QUOTAS**

(Tables MA:1 and MA:2)

**Notifying Members:** all Members with tariff and other quota commitments recorded in Section I-B (or Section I-A) of their Schedules for the products concerned.

**Notification frequency and format:**

- (i) a comprehensive one-off notification in 1995 on the administration of quotas (Table MA:1) followed by the ad hoc notification of any changes in their administration. The initial notification should normally be made in advance of the opening of the quota but in any event no later than 30 days following that date. Notifications of changes should be made, where possible, prior to the change being implemented, but in any event not later than 30 days following the change;
- (ii) an annual notification following the end of the calendar (or, marketing, fiscal, etc.) year in question showing imports under tariff and other quotas (Table MA:2). The notification should normally be made 30 days following the year but, in any event, no later than 60 days following the year in question.

**MARKET ACCESS: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Implementation of market access opportunities: tariff and other quota commitments*

Description of products	Tariff item number(s) encompassed in product description	Description of import arrangement applicable
(from Section I-B (or I-A) of Part I of the Schedule)	(from Section I-B (or I-A) of Part I of the Schedule)	
1	2	3

Description of the arrangements to be applied in order to provide the market access opportunities specified in the Member's Schedule, including, as appropriate:

- (a) allocation of quotas to supplying countries, including: (i) details of basis for determining the allocation (e.g. representative period or "other terms and conditions" as specified in Part I, Section I of Schedules); (ii) any limitation on the period of access;
- (b) allocation of licenses or of access to quotas to importers, including details of: (i) government agency, trading or administrative body competent to grant licenses or access to quotas, including those which have formally, or in effect, exclusive or special privileges; (ii) any limitations on eligibility of applicants; (iii) how licenses or access are to be allocated by the competent agency (e.g. first-come-first-served, pro rata); (iv) any limitations on the period of validity or use of the licenses granted;
- (c) details of other arrangements (not involving import licenses) under which access to quotas is to be administered;
- (d) any other information relevant to the implementation of market access opportunities under such arrangements.

Table MA.2

**MARKET ACCESS: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Lists relating to tariff and other quota commitments*

Description of products (from Section I-B (or I-A) of Part I of the Schedule)	Tariff item number(s) encompassed in product description	Tariff quota quantity for period in question	In-quota imports during period
1	2	3	4

## **SPECIAL SAFEGUARD**

(Tables MA:3 to MA:5)

**Notifying Members:** all Members having reserved the right in their Schedules to use the Special Safeguard Provisions (Article 5 of the Agreement on Agriculture).

### **Notification frequency and format:**

(i) in the case of the "volume-based" special safeguard, a notification in the form of Table MA:3 should be made as far as practicable before taking such action for the first time in any year in respect of each product, and in any event within 10 days of the implementation of such action;

(ii) in the case of the "price-based" special safeguard, a notification in the form of Table MA:4 should be submitted. Table MA:4 can be used either to provide an "up-front" notification of trigger prices or on a case-by-case basis for the first use of the price-based special safeguard for any particular product (to be notified to the extent possible in advance, but in any event within 10 days of the taking of such action unless an up-front notification of the relevant trigger price has been made);

(iii) an annual notification in the form of Table MA:5 should be made indicating the use of the special safeguard provisions in any year. The notification should be submitted no later than 30 days following the year in question. Where the special safeguard provisions have not been invoked in any year, a statement to this effect should be made.

Table MA:3 **MARKET ACCESS: name of Member**

*Notification under Article 5 of the Agreement: special safeguard: volume-based*

---

**(1) Description of product:**

**(2) Tariff item number:**

**(3) Trigger level:**

(as calculated in Annex 1)

tonnes

**(4) Volume of imports entering**

**territory in current period:**tonnes

**(5) Period of application:**

(calendar/marketing year or shorter period  
for perishable or seasonal products (specify))

**SPECIAL SAFEGUARD: VOLUME-BASED: Annex 1 to MA:3**

**Information required for the calculation of the Trigger Level**

Imports in the 3 preceding years:	Year 1:	tonnes
	Year 2:	tonnes
	Year 3:	tonnes
	Average:	tonnes

And if import penetration is taken into account:

Consumption in the 3 preceding years:	Year 1:	tonnes
	Year 2:	tonnes
	Year 3:	tonnes
	Average:	tonnes

Method of allocation of change in consumption to the tariff line concerned:

Table MA:4

**MARKET ACCESS: name of Member**

*Notification under Article 5 of the Agreement: special safeguard: price-based*

---

**A: "UP-FRONT" NOTIFICATION OF TRIGGER PRICES**

Where a Member provides an up-front notification of trigger prices the following format should be used:

<b>Tariff item number</b>	<b>Description of product</b>	<b>Trigger price</b>
		(as calculated in Annex 1)

**B: AD HOC NOTIFICATION**

Where no up-front notification of the trigger prices is made, the following format should be used on the first use of the price-based special safeguard for any product:

**(1) Description of product:**

**(2) Tariff item number:**

**(3) Trigger price:**  
(as calculated in Annex 1)

**(4) Date of application:**

**SPECIAL SAFEGUARD: PRICE-BASED: Annex 1 to Table MA:4**

**Information required for the calculation of the Trigger Price**

Prices in the reference period:	1986:	/tonne
	1987:	/tonne
	1988:	/tonne
	Average:	/tonne

Source of price information:

Table MA.5

**MARKET ACCESS: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Annual summary of special safeguard actions taken*

Tariff item number	Description of product	Whether volume-based action taken during period	Whether price-based action taken during period
1	2	3	4

**CURRENT TOTAL AGGREGATE MEASUREMENT OF SUPPORT**  
(Table DS:1 and Supporting Tables DS:1 to DS:9)

**Notifying Members:** all Members.

**Notification frequency and format:**

- (i) for all Members with base and annual commitment levels shown in Section I of Part IV of their Schedule, a notification should be made no later than 90 days following the end of the calendar (or, marketing, fiscal, etc.) year in question. Where the notification submitted within the 90 day period is provisional, the final notification should be submitted no later than 120 days following the end of the year. A summary table (Table DS:1) and supporting tables (Supporting Tables DS:1 to DS:9) as attached should be submitted;
- (ii) for those Members with no base or annual commitment levels shown in Section I of Part IV of their Schedule:

all Members with the exception of least-developed Members should submit an annual notification providing that the Committee may, at the request of a developing country Member, set aside this requirement other than in respect of Supporting Tables DS:1 to DS:3;

least-developed Members should submit Supporting Tables DS:1 to DS:3 every two years.

Where no support exists, a statement to this effect should be made.

Table DS:1

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT:** name of Member  
**REPORTING PERIOD:** calendar year, marketing year, etc.

*Current Total Aggregate Measurement of Support*

Total AMS commitment level for period in question	Currency	Current Total AMS
(from Section I of Part IV of the Schedule)	(from Section I of Part IV of the Schedule)	(from attached Supporting Tables)
1	2	3

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT:** name of Member**REPORTING PERIOD:** calendar year, marketing year, etc.*Measures exempt from the reduction commitment -- "Green Box"*

Measure type	Name and description of measure with reference to criteria in Annex 2	Monetary value of measure in year in question	Data sources
1	2	3	4
(a)	"general services"		
(b)	"public stockholding for food security purposes"		
(c)	"domestic food aid"		
(d)	"decoupled income support"		
(e)	"income insurance and income safety-net programmes"		
(f)	"payments for relief from natural disasters"		
(g)	"structural adjustment assistance provided through producer retirement programmes"		
(h)	"structural adjustment assistance provided through resource retirement programmes"		
(i)	"structural adjustment assistance provided through investment aids"		
(j)	"environmental programmes"		
(k)	"regional assistance programmes"		
(l)	"other"		

Supporting Table DS:2

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Measures exempt from the reduction commitment - Special and Differential Treatment - "Development Programmes"*

Measure type	Name and description of measure with reference to criteria in Article 6:2	Monetary value of measure in year in question	Data sources
1	2	3	4

- (a) "investment subsidies generally available to agriculture"
- (b) "input subsidies generally available to low-income or resource-poor producers"
- (c) "support to encourage diversification from growing illicit narcotic crops"

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member****REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.***Measures exempt from the reduction commitment - Direct Payments under Production-Limiting Programmes - "Exempt Direct Payments"*

Measure type	Name and description of measure with reference to criteria in Article 6:5	Monetary value of measure in year in question	Data sources
1	2	3	4
(a)	"payments based on fixed area and yields"		
(b)	"payments based on 85 per cent or less of the base level of production"		
(c)	"livestock payments made on a fixed number of head"		

Supporting Table DS:4

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT:** name of Member

**REPORTING PERIOD:** calendar year, marketing year, etc.

*Calculation of the Current Total Aggregate Measurement of Support*

Description of basic products (including non-product specific AMS)	1	2	3	4
		Product-specific AMS (from Supporting Tables DS:5 to DS:7 below)	Product-specific measurements of support (from Supporting Table DS:8 below)	Current Total AMS (aggregate)
Product A				Total Product A
Product B				Total Product B
Product C				Total Product C
...				...
Non-product-specific AMS				Total Non-product-specific AMS (from Supporting Table DS:9 below)
				TOTAL: Current Total AMS

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member****REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.***Product-Specific Aggregate Measurements of Support: Market Price Support*

Description of basic products	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Measure type(s)	Applied administered price	External reference price (generally from AGST/...)	Eligible production	Associated fees/levies	Total market price support	Data sources
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
							((4-5*6)-7)	

Supporting Table DS:6

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Product-Specific Aggregate Measurements of Support: Non-Exempt Direct Payments*

Description of basic product	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Measure type(s)	Applied administered price	External reference price (generally from AGST/...)	Eligible production	Total price-related direct payments	Other non-exempt direct payments	Associated fees/levies	Total direct payments	Data sources
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
						((4-5)*6)			(7+ 8-9)	

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member****REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.***Product-Specific Aggregate Measurements of Support: Other Product-Specific Support and Total Product-Specific AMS*

Description of basic product	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Measure type(s)	Other product-specific budgetary outlays	Other product-specific support (include calculation details)	Associated fees/levies	Total other product-specific support	Market price support (Supporting Table DS:5)	Non-exempt direct payments (Supporting Table DS:6)	Total AMS	Data sources
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 (4+ 5-6)	8	9	10 (7+ 8+ 9)	11

Supporting Table DS.8  
**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Product-Specific Equivalent Measurements of Support*

Description of basic products	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Measure type(s)	Applied administered price	Production eligible to receive the applied administered price	Market price support budgetary outlays	Equivalent measurement of support (include calculation details)	Non-exempt direct payments	Other product-specific support	Associated fees/levies	Total monetary value of equivalent commitment	Data sources
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1										(7+ 8+ 9-10)	

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Non-Product-Specific AMS*

Measure type(s)	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Non-product-specific budgetary outlays	Other non-product-specific support (include calculation details)	Associated fees/levies	Total non-product-specific support	Data sources
	2	3	4	5	6 (3+ 4-5)	7
1						

**NEW OR MODIFIED DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES EXEMPT FROM REDUCTION**  
(Table DS:2)

**Notifying Members:** all Members introducing a new support measure, or making modifications to an existing measure, for which an exemption from reduction is claimed. Exemptions from domestic support reduction commitments can fall under one or more of the following three categories:

- (i) measures that have no or at most minimal trade-distorting effects or effects on production. The criteria relating to these "green box" measures are contained in Annex 2 to the Agreement on Agriculture;
- (ii) investment subsidies which are generally available to agriculture in developing country Members, agricultural input subsidies generally available to low-income or resource-poor producers in developing country Members and domestic support to producers in developing country Members to encourage diversification from growing illicit narcotic crops. The criteria relating to these "development programmes" of developing country Members are contained in Article 6:2 of the Agreement on Agriculture; and
- (iii) direct payments under production-limiting programmes. The criteria relating to these "exempt direct payments" (or "blue box" measures) are contained in Article 6:5 of the Agreement on Agriculture.

**Notification frequency and format:** a notification as attached should be submitted for each new or modified measure as far as practicable before such measures are adopted and in any event within 30 days of adoption.

Table DS:2

**DOMESTIC SUPPORT: name of Member**

*Notification under Article 18:3 of the Agreement: New or modified domestic support measures exempt from reduction*

---

**(1) Full title of measure:**

**(2) Domestic legislation reference:**

**(3) Detailed description of measure with reference to criteria, i.e. those in:**

Annex 2: Green box: (a) "general services"; (b) "public stockholding for food security purposes"; (c) "domestic food aid"; (d) "decoupled income support"; (e) "income insurance and income safety-net programmes"; (f) "payments for relief from natural disasters"; (g) "structural adjustment assistance provided through producer retirement programmes"; (h) "structural adjustment assistance provided through resource retirement programmes"; (i) "structural adjustment assistance provided through investment aids; (j) "environmental programmes"; (k) "regional assistance programmes"; (l) "other"; **and/or**

Article 6:3: Development programmes: (a) "investment subsidies generally available to agriculture"; (b) "input subsidies generally available to low-income or resource-poor producers"; (c) "support to encourage diversification from illicit narcotic crops"; **and/or**

Article 6:5: Exempt direct payments: (a) "payments based on fixed area and yields"; (b) payments based on 85 per cent or less of the base level of production"; (c) "livestock payments made on a fixed number of head".

**(4) Cost of measure:**

**(5) Date of entry into effect:**

**(6) Period of application:**

**(7) Products to principally benefit (if any individual product(s)):**

**EXPORT SUBSIDY COMMITMENTS**  
(Tables ES:1 to ES:3 and Supporting Tables ES:1 and ES:2)

**Notifying Members:** all Members.

**Notification frequency and format:**

- (i) for all Members with base and annual commitment levels shown in Section II of Part IV of their Schedule, an annual notification following the end of the calendar (or, marketing, fiscal, etc.) year in question should be made. A notification should be made no later than 60 days following end of the year in question. Where the notification submitted within the 60 day period is provisional, the final notification should be submitted no later than 120 days following the end of the year in question. The notification should take the form of Table ES:1 accompanied by Supporting Table ES:1. Where necessary, details of the use of downstream flexibility should be included in the notification;
- (ii) for those Members with no base or annual commitment levels shown in Section II of Part IV of their Schedule, an annual notification following the end of the year in question should be made no later than 30 days following the period in the form of a statement confirming that no export subsidies exist or, in the case of developing country Members using exempt export subsidies (Article 9:1(d) and (e)), in the form of Supporting Table ES:2;
- (iii) for all Members with base and annual commitment levels shown in Section II of Part IV of their Schedule plus all other Members which are significant exporters of the products listed hereunder, namely, those Members whose share of total world exports in any one or more of the following products or groups of products exceeds 5%, an annual notification of the total volume of exports of the product(s) concerned should be made. Notifications in respect of the first two years of implementation should be made no later than 120 days following the end of the end of the calendar (or, marketing, fiscal, etc.) year in question. Where a notification with respect to any product or group of products is provisional a final notification shall be made no later than 180 days following the end of the year in question. In respect of the third and subsequent years of implementation notifications shall be made no later than 120 days following the end of the implementation year in question. A list of Members that are significant exporters for the purposes of this notification requirement and of the products concerned shall be established by the Chairman following consultation as appropriate and shall be reviewed after two years. Notifications should take the form of Table ES:2 and, in the case of Members with base and annual commitment levels shown in Section II of Part IV of their Schedule, the data on total exports shall be on a basis comparable to that provided in Table ES:1. The products or groups of products concerned are;

- |                              |                          |                 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| (i) Wheat and wheat flour    | (ix) Skim milk powder    | (xvii) Eggs     |
| (ii) Coarse grains           | (x) Cheese               | (xviii) Wine    |
| (iii) Rice                   | (xi) Other milk products | (xix) Fruit     |
| (iv) Oilseeds                | (xii) Bovine Meat        | (xx) Vegetables |
| (v) Vegetable oils           | (xiii) Pigmeat           | (xxi) Tobacco   |
| (vi) Oilcakes                | (xiv) Poultry meat       | (xxii) Cotton   |
| (vii) Sugar                  | (xv) Sheepmeat           |                 |
| (viii) Butter and butter oil | (xvi) Live animals       |                 |

- (iv) for all food donor Members, a notification in the form of Table ES:3 showing the total volume of food aid should be provided (unless this information is required to be provided under (i) above). For the purposes of ES:3, the list of products or groups of products shown under (iii) above should be used. The notification should be made no later than 120 days following the end of the year in question.

**EXPORT SUBSIDIES: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Export Subsidies: Budgetary Outlay and Quantity Reduction Commitments*

Description of products (from Section II of Part IV)	Calendar / marketing year beginning ... (from Section II of Part IV)	Subsidised exports		Food aid <sup>1</sup>		Annual commitment levels	
		Outlays	Quantity	Quantity	Outlays	Quantity	Quantity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

<sup>1</sup> Members are to provide data on food aid to all destinations.

**EXPORT SUBSIDIES: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Export Subsidies: Notification of Total Exports*

Description of products	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Quantity of total exports
1	2	3

Table ES.3

**EXPORT SUBSIDIES:** name of Member  
**REPORTING PERIOD:** calendar year, marketing year, etc.  
*Export Subsidies: Notification of the total volume of food aid*

Description of products	Calendar / marketing year beginning ...	Quantity of food aid to all destinations
1	2	3

**EXPORT SUBSIDIES: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Export Subsidies: Outlay and Quantity Reduction Commitments*

Description of products	Direct export subsidies	Sales of stocks	Producer financed subsidies	Cost reduction measures	Internal transport subsidies	Total product specific export subsidies	Quantity of subsidized exports	Data source
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1								

Supporting Table ES:2

**EXPORT SUBSIDIES: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

*Export Subsidies: Outlay and Quantity Reduction Commitments: Developing Country Members using Article 9:1(d) and/or (e) Export Subsidies*

Description of products	Cost reduction measures	Internal transport subsidies	Total product specific export subsidies	Quantity of subsidized exports	Data source
1	2	3	4	5	6

## **EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS**

(Table ER:1)

**Notifying Members:** any Member instituting an export prohibition or restriction covered by Article 12 of the Agreement on Agriculture (except developing country Members which are not net exporters of the product concerned).

**Notification frequency and format:** a notification as attached should be made as far as practicable in advance of the measure being taken.

Table ER:1

**EXPORT RESTRICTIONS: name of Member**

*Notification under Article 12 of the Agreement: Export prohibitions and restrictions*

---

**(1) Description of product:**

**(2) Tariff item number(s):**

**(3) Nature of, and justification for, measure to be introduced:**

**(4) Duration of application of measure:**

**MONITORING OF THE FOLLOW-UP TO  
THE DECISION ON MEASURES CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE  
NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THE REFORM PROGRAMME  
ON LEAST-DEVELOPED AND NET FOOD-IMPORTING  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

(Table NF:1)

**Notifying Members:** Members in respect of actions taken within the framework of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries.

**Notification frequency and format:** a notification should be made by all donor Members at least annually with respect to items (1), (2) and (3) in Table NF:1. The notification should be made no later than 60 days following the relevant period.

Table NF:1     **NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 16:2 OF THE AGREEMENT:  
MONITORING OF THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECISION ON  
MEASURES CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF  
THE REFORM PROGRAMME ON LEAST-DEVELOPED AND NET  
FOOD-IMPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: name of Member**

**REPORTING PERIOD: calendar year, marketing year, etc.**

---

**(1) Quantity of food aid provided to least-developed and net food-importing developing countries:**

**(2) Indication of the proportion in fully grant form or appropriate concessional terms:**

**(3) Technical and financial assistance under paragraph 3(iii) of the Decision:**

**(4) Other relevant information with respect to actions taken within the framework of the Decision:**