

AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

Notification under Articles 1.4(a) and 8.2(b) of the Agreement

SAINT LUCIA

The following communication, dated 1 July 2008, has been received from the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Investment of St. Lucia.

Rules and all information relating to import licensing procedures applicable in Saint Lucia are contained in the External Trade Act, No. 5 of 1968 and the External Trade (Restricted Imports) Order, SI No. 31 of 1996. All Acts and subsequent amendments are published in the Official Gazette of St. Lucia, prior to and after assent. Copies of the laws were submitted with our notifications of 19 December 2001. There have been no changes since our last report.

The Ministry of Commerce administers the licensing system in relation to trade in goods. In addition, the following bodies are responsible for the administration of licences as outlined below:

- Ministry of Agriculture – Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (Plant Protection Act No. 21 of 1988; Animals (Diseases and Importation) Ordinance Cap. 41);
- Pesticide Control Board – Pesticides (Pesticide Control Act No. 7 of 1975);
- Ministry of Health – Controlled drugs (Drugs (Prevention and Misuse) Act No. 22 of 1988);
- Commissioner of Police – Firearms and ammunition (Firearms Act No. 8 of 1995).

Under External Trade (Restricted Imports) Order SI No. 31 of 1996, all previous Statutory Instruments of its kind have been revoked. Consequently the schedules contained in SI No. 31 of 1996 are the ones currently in use. All trade licences are automatic except for items covered under the fourth schedule. Merchants, traders and customs brokers are familiar with the procedure.
