

WORLD TRADE  
ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**G/LIC/N/1/PAK/1**

**G/LIC/N/2/PAK/1**

29 May 1996

(96-2020)

**Committee on Import Licensing**

Original: English

**AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES**

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLES 1.4(a), 5 AND 8.2(b)**

**PAKISTAN**

The following communication, dated 6 May 1996, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan.

I have been instructed by my authorities to submit herewith the relevant notifications pursuant to Articles 1.4(a), 5 and 8.2(b) of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures.

**I. Notification under Articles 1.4(a) and 5 of the Agreement**

Pakistan does not maintain an import licensing system within the meaning of Article 1.1 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures and, therefore, no licences are required for the import of importable items. However, according to the existing Import Policy specific authorizations from the Ministry of Commerce on certain imports are required, which are listed below:

Chapter 14.1 of Import-Export Procedure, 1995 vide SRO No. 607(1)/95 dated 4 July 1995

- (a) (i) Motor cars are imported by disabled persons as per recommendations of a high-powered board; and
- (ii) Import of arms and ammunition by Members of the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies, etc.
- (b) Import-cum-Export Authorization in respect of goods imported by foreign air companies. Provided that authorization under this category is subject to the condition that an indemnity bond equal to the value of goods imported on a temporary basis will be submitted to the customs authorities at the time of release of the consignment.

(c) Import-cum-Export Authorization in respect of:

- (i) Goods imported by oil-prospecting companies and service companies contracted by oil-prospecting companies.

Provided that authorization under this category is subject to the condition that an indemnity bond equal to the value of goods imported on a temporary basis will be submitted to the customs authorities at the time of release of the consignment.

- (ii) Goods imported by foreign construction companies of foreign contracting firms for various projects in Pakistan.

Provided that authorization under this category is subject to the condition that 100 per cent bank guarantee equivalent to the value of items are submitted to the customs authorities at the time of release of the consignment ensuring that the goods will be re-exported.

- (d) Any other item for which authorization for import or export or import-cum-export or export-cum-import is required (e.g. the Ministry of Commerce issues import authorization for the import of arms and ammunition on a commercial basis subject to monetary ceilings to category holders).

Chapter 17 of Import-Export Procedure, 1995 vide SRO No. 607(1)/95 dated 4 July 1995

The Ministry of Commerce issues authorization on the basis of the following:

- (e) Import of items on a permanent basis by foreign construction companies and foreign contracting firms

(i) The items are either to be consumed on the project or become permanent fixtures of the project; and

(ii) The request has been endorsed by the concerned Government agency.

- (f) Import of items on a temporary basis by foreign construction companies and foreign contracting firms

(i) The items are neither consumed in the execution of a project nor can become permanent fixtures of the project; and

(ii) A bank guarantee equivalent to the value of the items is submitted to the customs authorities at the time of release of the consignment ensuring that the goods will be re-exported.

- (g) Permanent retention of goods imported on a temporary basis

(i) Items are importable; and

(ii) Customs duty and sales tax leviable at the time of import are paid.

- Authorizations of the Ministry of Commerce are issued on the letter-head of the Ministry of Commerce and are consecutively numbered and embossed. The Import Authorization

where required and issued by the authority is valid during the currency of the Import Policy Order for the purpose of the opening of a letter of credit or import against any other mode of payment.

- The authorizations in the above-mentioned cases are issued to ensure safeguards for utilizing imports for specific purposes and in no way restrict or regulate the trade. Thus these are to be taken into account before treating the said authorization within the purview of the notification on import licensing.

## **II. Notification under Article 8.2(b) of the Agreement**

A copy of the Import-Export Control Act 1950 and a copy of the Import Policy Order 1995 are provided.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Available for consultation in the Secretariat (Market Access Division) (in English only).