

AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

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

VENEZUELA

The following communication, dated 12 October 2002, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Venezuela.

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith copies of the laws and regulations relating to the import licensing procedures in force in 2002 in Venezuela. This notification is pursuant to Articles 1.4 and 8.2 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures of the World Trade Organization.

Legal bases for the import licensing system¹:

1. Administration of tariff quotas for a series of agricultural items

- Official Gazette (*Gaceta Oficial*) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela No. 36.831 of 17 November 1999, publishing Resolution No. 282 of the Ministry of Finance (MF) and No. 627 of the Ministry of Production and Trade (MPC), "Tariff Quotas for Products in Schedule LXXXVI Section I-B, (Negotiations on Agriculture under the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)".
- Official Gazette No. 36.831 of 17 November 1999, publishing Resolution No. 285 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 631 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, establishing tariff quotas for milk and cheese.
- Official Gazette No. 36.835 of 21 November 1999, publishing Resolutions Nos. 292, 293, 294 and 295 of the Ministry of Finance, which partly amend Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995 (the Customs Tariff), with respect to the level of bound tariffs for the products in the import licensing schedule.
- Official Gazette No. 37.082 of 21 November 1999, publishing Resolution No. 648 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 607 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, extending Joint Resolution No. 282 and No. 627 of those Ministries for one year.
- Official Gazette No 37.147 of 23 February 2001, publishing Resolution No. 718 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 86 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, establishing tariff

¹ May be consulted at the Secretariat (Market Access Division); (in Spanish only).

quotas for the products in Schedule LXXXVI, Section I-B, pursuant to the negotiations on agriculture under the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

- Official Gazette No. 37.155 of 9 March 2001, publishing Resolution No. 723 of the Ministry of Finance, which partly amends Article 21 of Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995, in the terms established therein.
- Official Gazette No. 37.327 of 19 November 2001, publishing Joint Resolution No. 841 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 836 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, which extends each and every one of the provisions of Joint Resolution No. 289 and No. 630 of 12 November 1999 of these Ministries for a period of one year.
- Official Gazette No. 37.329 of 21 November 2001, publishing Joint Resolution No. 848 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 898 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, which extends each and every one of the provisions of Joint Resolution No. 285 and No. 631 of 15 November 1999 of these Ministries for a period of one year.
- Official Gazette No. 37.368 of 21 January 2002, publishing the Resolution establishing tariff quotas for maize and sorghum (for the period 28 January 2002 to 31 December 2002), pursuant to the Uruguay Round negotiations.
- Official Gazette No. 5.581, extraordinary edition of 27 March 2002, publishing Resolution No. 911 of the Ministry of Finance, which partly amends Article 21 of Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995 with respect to the level of bound tariffs for yellow maize and sorghum.

2. Import licences for environmental protection purposes

- Official Gazette No. 31.004 of 16 June 1976, publishing the Organic Law on the Environment.
- Official Gazette No. 34.010 of 19 July 1988, publishing the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.
- Official Gazette No. 34.134 of 11 January 1989, publishing the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
- Official Gazette No. 5.293, extraordinary edition of 13 August 1999, publishing Decree No. 3.220 on "Standards for Reducing the Consumption of Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer".

3. Import licences for public health purposes

- Official Gazette No 25.864 of 16 January 1959, publishing Decree No. 501 which promulgated the General Food Regulations.
- Official Gazette No 35.921 of 15 March 1996, publishing Resolution No. SG 081 of the Ministry of Health and Social Development, which promulgates complementary standards to the General Food Regulations.
- Official Gazette No 37.006 of 3 August 2000, publishing the Law on Medicines.
- Official Gazette No 16.551 of 7 July 1928, publishing the Law on the Practice of the Pharmaceutical Profession.

- Official Gazette No 4.636, extraordinary edition of 30 September 1993, publishing the Organic Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (LOSEP).
- Official Gazette No 36.545 of 23 September 1998, publishing Joint Resolution No. 5.055 of the Ministry of Finance, No. 864 of the Ministry of Defence, No. 094 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, No. 63.699 of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and No. 165 of the Ministry of Justice, which regulates import, export and domestic marketing procedures for the chemical substances identified in the Joint Resolution determining essential chemical products subject to control, pursuant to Article 2 of the Organic Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances.
- Official Gazette No. 36.705 of 20 May 1999, publishing Joint Resolution No. 107 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 350 of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, amending Article 21 of Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995 (the Customs Tariff) for imports of goods classified under the tariff codes indicated therein.

4. Import licences for State security purposes

- Official Gazette No. 19.900 of 12 June 1939, publishing the Weapons and Explosives Law.
- Official Gazette No. 20.107 of 13 February 1940, publishing the Regulations in respect of the Weapons and Explosives Law.

5. Import licences for slot machines, accessories and equipment

- Official Gazette No. 36.254 of 23 July 1997, publishing the Law on the Control of Casinos, Bingo Halls and Slot Machines.
- Official Gazette No. 36.590 of 26 November 1998, publishing Rules for the Ownership, Operation and Transport of Machines in Venezuelan national territory. This Gazette also publishes the amendment to Article 21 of the Customs Tariff (Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995) in the terms established therein.

6. Import licences for new scraps from the clothing industry

- Official Gazette No. 37.376 of 31 January 2002, publishing Joint Resolution No. 855 of the Ministry of Finance and No. 977 of the Ministry of Production and Trade, which partly amends Decree No. 989 of 20 December 1995 promulgating the Customs Tariff, in the terms specified therein.
-