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Committee on Import Licensing

AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

Notification Under Articles 7.3 (Replies to Questionnaire), 1.4(a), 5.1-5.4 and 8.2(b) of the Agreement

SWITZERLAND

The following notification, dated 21 September 2000, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Switzerland.

We have the honour to submit, in Annex hereto, the notification of Switzerland in respect of import licensing. This notification was drawn up pursuant to Articles 1.4(a), 5.1-5.4, 7.3 and 8.2(b) of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. It covers the period from 1 January 1999 to 31 December 2000, and at the same time describes the status of the import licensing regimes as of 1 January 2000.

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Preliminary observation

The replies to the questionnaire as well as the forms and other relevant documents provided in Annex reflect the status of the licensing systems in force as on 1 January 2000.

Questionnaire

I. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Sanitary and phytosanitary aspects of the products dealt with in Chapter I are described in greater detail in Chapter II(i) and II(ii). The licensing system with respect to the compulsory holding of reserve stocks of foodstuffs and industrial products is described in Chapter III.

Under the tariffication introduced with the implementation of the Results of the Uruguay Round, Switzerland no longer applies quantitative restrictions. The series of questions under point 6 was used to reflect as accurately as possible the non-automatic licensing systems applied with respect to the agricultural tariff quotas resulting from the Uruguay Round.

- HORIZONTAL REPLIES

Where there are no remarks concerning the outlines of the licensing systems by group of products below, the following provisions apply:

Outline of systems

- 1. The licensing systems for agricultural products are essentially governed by the new Federal Law on Agriculture of 29 April 1998, which entered into force on 1 January 1999 (Systematic Compendium RS 910.1¹), the Federal Law on Alcohol of 21 June 1932 (RS 680) and the General Ordinance on imports of agricultural products of 7 December 1998 (RS 916.01). They provide the legal basis for the statistical control of imports, the collection of portions of the customs duties that are not collected by the Federal Customs Administration (i.e. that are levied by bodies outside the customs system) and for the individual allocation of tariff quota (TQ) shares and the control of their utilisation. To this end, the two following instruments are applied:
- (A) <u>Automatic licensing (general import licence PGI)</u>: All imports of the groups of products listed under headings I(i) to I(x) are subject to the PGI system. This licence, granted automatically, is used for statistical purposes and serves in certain cases to ensure collection of those portions of the customs duty that are not levied by the Federal Customs Administration. The licensing system to cover the expenses of compulsory stocks is described in Chapter III. Persons liable to customs controls must show their PGI number on their customs declaration.
- (B) Non-automatic licensing governed by conditions set forth in the PGI, for the allocation of tariff quota (TQ) shares: This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorised to carry out imports within the TQ. If import at the TQ rate is authorised provided that the importer purchases a fixed proportion of domestic products, an importer meeting this requirement may import at the TQ rate even if the TQ has been exhausted. Since 1 January 1999 quota shares may be transferred among holders of such non-automatic licences. They are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not

¹ Available under http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/rs.html (in French, German and Italian only)

required to produce this authorisation at the border, as the competent authority carries out an *ex post* control.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. In principle, the agricultural products described under headings I(i) to I(x) are subject to an automatic import licence (PGI). Imports within the TQs assuming that a TQ exists and is applied require a non-automatic licence (for tariff item numbers within the TQs, see Swiss notification to the Committee on Agriculture G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add1).
- 3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, whatever their origin.
- 4. Automatic licences provide for the statistical control of imports and, in certain cases, the collection of portions of customs duties that are not levied by the Federal Customs. Non-automatic licences provide for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilisation.
- 5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (RS 910.1, Article 24, Federal Law on Alcohol (RS 680, Article 24*ter*) and General Ordinance on imports of agricultural products (RS 916.01, Article 1). For specific procedures, see Chapters I(i) to I(x). As a rule, the government has the competence to abolish or amend ordinances concerning import systems without legislative approval. In some cases, it must submit the provisions to Parliament for *ex post* approval. The changes are published in the Official Compendium of Federal Law (RO) and the Systematic Compendium of Federal Law (RS).

- 6. Non-automatic licence. Does not apply to TQs which, for independent reasons, are not currently applied.
- I. The administration of TQs for the calendar year 1999 is described in the Swiss notifications to the Committee on Agriculture G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.1. All information concerning TQ utilisation (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances published in the RO and RS (see Chapters I(i) to I(iv), I(vi) and I(viii) to I(x)). The customs tariffs indicate, in the specific remarks under each tariff item number, whether or not a licence is required. If so, the name of the office through which the importer may obtain further details is also provided.
- II. TQs are determined for one year. TQ shares (non-automatic licence) may be allocated for shorter periods. The validity of the non-automatic licence is generally limited (see description by group of products below).
- III. Since 1 January 1999, producers of agricultural products and their marketing entities are also allowed to apply for tariff quotas. The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In February/March of each year, the annex to the Report to Parliament on Tariff Measures provides the names of importers for the preceding year. The list of names is published in Official Journal (Feuille Fédérale). This Report may be ordered from the Central Federal Office of Publications and Printed Materials (Office central fédéral des imprimés et du matériel).
- IV. There is no deadline for the submission of applications from the time of opening of the quota.
- V. As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to three days according to the product.

- VI. When an import licence is granted, the date of opening of the period of importation may be the same as the date for the utilisation of the licence. In other cases, the goods may be imported as soon as the individual quota has been allocated.
- VII. As a rule, applications are examined by a single administrative organ.
- VIII. For the distribution of TQs by product group, see below (Chapters I(i) to I(iv), I(vi) and I(viii) to I(x)). In principle, each TQ allocation method enables new importers to participate in the market. A reserve supply is set aside specifically to that effect. Such reserves are above the total quantity of the tariff quota.
- IX. The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X. Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI. No.
- 7. Automatic licence.
- (a) In view of the time required to obtain a licence, the application must be submitted three to five days in advance of the importation itself. For certain products, it may be granted upon request by telephone. For the import of certain goods, however, the approval of the Cantonal Veterinary Office (see Chapter II(i)) or of the Plant Protection Service (see Chapter II(ii)) is required, and the time-period is therefore longer.
- (b) Generally, yes.
- (c) No.
- (d) In most cases, applications are considered by a single organ. However, applications concerning goods that are subject to veterinary control (see Chapter II(i)) or to phytosanitary control (see Chapter II(ii)) must be examined by a second organ. The importer generally approaches only one organ.
- 8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the administrative authority or to the Appeals Commission and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a) Non-automatic licensing: TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organisations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that: (a) Are established on Swiss customs territory; (b) import goods in the sector concerned for business purposes; (c) provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to utilisation of TQ shares. Since 1 January 1999 producers of agricultural products and their marketing entities are also eligible for TQ if they meet the commitments for the allocation of TQ (e.g. purchase of like products directly from other producers in Switzerland). In February/March of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year (see point 6.III).

(b) <u>Automatic licensing (PGI)</u>: As a rule, any natural or legal person domiciled in Switzerland is eligible, irrespective of nationality or origin, to receive a licence. In some cases, the applicant must engage regularly, and for business purposes, in trade in the product in question. There is no published list of authorised importers (except those who import within the TQs - see point 6.III).

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available at the WTO Secretariat.
- 11. In addition to the number of the automatic licence and the documents usually required by the customs services, certain certificates, such as certificates of origin or sanitary or phytosanitary certificates (see Chapter II), are required according to the product.
- 12. Automatic licensing: No fees; PGI: Sw F 8 per consignment of goods released from customs; imports following the allocation of an individual TQ share: Sw F 30 per allocation and Sw F 8 per consignment released from customs; imports following a specific allocation, upon special request, of a TQ share: Sw F 80 per allocation and Sw F 8 per consignment released from customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.
- 13. As a rule, no.

Conditions of licensing

- 14.(A) Automatic licensing: The validity is not limited as long as the conditions on which the licence was granted are met; (B) Non-automatic licensing: The validity of the licence varies from two weeks to one year according to the product. The licence is generally renewable, sometime several times.
- 15. No.
- 16. Automatic licensing (A) and non-automatic licensing (B): The licences are transferable between eligible persons.
- 17.(a) In a certain number of cases, the issue of non-automatic licences is subject to the purchase of like products from Switzerland or to auctioning.
- (b) In a certain number of cases, the issuing of automatic licences is subject to the payment of the portions of the customs duty that are not collected by the Federal Customs Administration.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. No.
- 19. The foreign exchange required to pay for imports is automatically provided by the banks. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange.

(I) HORSES (A), LIVESTOCK AND BREEDING ANIMALS, BOVINE SEMEN (B)

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. The specific legal basis for (A) is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 regulating the import of horses (Ordinance on Horses, OIC; RS 916.322.1), and for (B) the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning animal breeding (RS 916.310). The automatic and the non-automatic licensing system are administered by the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. Horses, livestock and breeding animals as well as bovine semen are subject to automatic licensing, and to non-automatic licensing for imports within the TQs.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports, it doesn't restrict the quantity or value of imports. Non-automatic licensing provides for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilisation, it does restrict the quantity.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6.I. See horizontal replies. (A) Auction dates are published in the specialised press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).
- II. (A) and (B): The TQs are determined for one year (1 January-31 December). Validity of non-automatic licences: (A) 50% of the TQ is put for auction each September the licences are valid for the next calendar year (1 January-31 December); the remaining 50% of the TQ is put for auction each April the licences are valid till the end of the same year (31 December). (B) The TQ is distributed in chronological order of submission of applications. The non-automatic licences are valid as soon as they have been issued till the end of the calendar year (31 December).
- III-V. See horizontal replies.
- VI. See point II.
- VII. In order to import animals and semen, the importer must obtain one licence from the OFAG and one licence from the OVF (two distinct forms for health aspects see Chapter II(i)).
- VIII. (A) Auctioning of the TQ. The maximum amount per applicant is 10% of the TQ.
 - (B) Distribution of the TQ in chronological order of submission of applications. The maximum amount per applicant is 5% of the TQ.

IX-XI. See horizontal replies.

- 7.(a-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

- 9.(a) See horizontal replies. Semen: cattle breeding and insemination organisations recognised under Swiss law, breeders and groups of breeders domiciled on Swiss customs territory and participating in a Swiss breeding programme.
- (b) See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Automatic licensing: see horizontal replies; non-automatic licensing: see point 6.II.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17. (a) (A) Applicants have to take part in the auction. (B) No
 - (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (II) ANIMALS FOR SLAUGHTER, MEAT, PREPARED MEAT PRODUCTS AND EGGS

Outline of systems

- 1. See horizontal replies.
- (A) Animals for slaughter, meat of bovine, equine, ovine, caprine and porcine animals as well as poultry

The specific legal bases is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning the slaughter cattle and meat market (Ordinance on Cattle for Slaughter, OBB; RS 916.341) The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

(B) <u>Prepared meat products</u>

The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning the slaughter cattle and meat market (Ordinance on Cattle for Slaughter, OBB; RS 916.341). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

(C) Eggs and egg products

The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning the egg market (Ordinance on Eggs, OO; RS 916.371). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. All of the products from (A) to (C) are subject to automatic licensing, and to non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQ.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. See horizontal replies.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

- 6.I. See horizontal replies. Auction dates are published in the specialised press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).
- II. See horizontal replies. (A) and (B): the maximum duration of non-automatic licences is one year. (C): the maximum duration of non-automatic licences are four months (eggs for consumption) and one year (eggs for processing and egg products).
- III-V. See horizontal replies.
- VI. Animals for slaughter, meat of bovine, equine, ovine, caprine and porcine animals, poultry, egg products: one day. Prepared meat products and eggs: one month.
- VII. (A), (B) and (C): The OFAG is responsible for issuing licences. For health aspects see Chapter II.
- VIII. See horizontal replies.
- (A) TQ-distribution according to slaughter and to purchases within the country.
- (B) TQ-distribution by auction.
- (C) TQ-distribution according to purchases within the country (eggs for consumption) and first come, first served (eggs for processing and egg products).
- IX-XI. See horizontal replies.
- 7.(a) One week. Emergency procedure by telephone or fax possible.
- (b-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10-12. See horizontal replies.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Automatic licensing: see horizontal replies; non-automatic licensing: see point 6.II.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) (A) and (C, only eggs for consumption) Purchase of like products from Switzerland . (B) Applicants have to take part in the auction.
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (III) MILK, DAIRY PRODUCE (A), ACID CASEIN (B)

Outline of systems

- 1. See horizontal replies.
- (A) Milk and dairy produce

The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 17 May 1995 on the importation of milk and dairy produce as well as edible oils and fats (OILHG; RS 916.355.1). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

(B) Acid casein

The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 8 June 1995 concerning the import and domestic purchase of acid casein (RS 916.355.3). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

- 2. The products are subject to automatic licensing, and to non-automatic licensing as regards imports of certain dairy products (whole milk powder, butter, Fontal cheese, natural yoghurt, dairy spreads with a basis of milk fat) within the TQs.
- 3. See horizontal replies.

- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports for all products. Non-automatic licensing provides for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilisation.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6.I. See horizontal replies.
- II. See horizontal replies. Quotas and non-automatic licences are established for one calendar year. Exception: non-automatic licences for whole milk powder are valid for 18 months from the date of performance of the action in favour of Swiss production (current account; purchase with scale).
- III-V. See horizontal replies.
- VI. At least three to five days.
- VII. The OFAG is the only organ to approach.

VIII.(A)See horizontal replies. The distribution of partial TQs takes place as follows:

- Whole milk powder: according to purchases within the country;
- Butter: The OFAG decides how much butter can be imported within the tariff quota.
- Fontal cheese: In 1999 70 per cent and in 2000 40 per cent according to imports in the previous year. The remaining quantities were allocated by auction (total quantity limited to 2,624 tons);
- Selected dairy products (natural yoghurt, spreads with a basis of milk fat): as needed (amount limited to 10 tons per year and per importer; maximum total quantity: 200 tons per year).
- (B) Distribution according to purchases within the country.
- IX-X. See horizontal replies.
- 7.(a) One week. Emergency procedure by telephone or fax possible.
- (b-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. See horizontal replies. Non-automatic licences, valid for one year, are not extendable.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) Purchase of like products from Switzerland (only partially for (A)).
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (IV) FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES (A), FRUIT FOR CIDER AND FRUIT PRODUCTS (B), CUT FLOWERS (C), FROZEN VEGETABLES (D), POTATOES (INCLUDING SEED POTATOES) AND POTATO PRODUCTS (E), FRUIT SEEDLINGS (F)

Outline of systems

- 1. See horizontal replies.
 - (A), (B), (C), (D) and (F): The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on the import of vegetables, fresh fruit and cut flowers (RS 916.121.10). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.
 - (E) The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning the utilisation as well as the import and export (RS 916.113.11). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG (as of 1 February 1997).

- 2. The following products:
 - (A) Fresh vegetables and fresh fruit are subject to: (a) automatic licensing and (b) non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQs over a period ranging from 6 to 50 weeks according to the product;
 - (B) Fruit for cider, seed fruit products, (D) frozen vegetables are subject to: (a) automatic licensing and (b) non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQs;
 - (C) Cut flowers are subject to: (a) automatic licensing and (b) non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQ during the period from 1 May to 25 October;
 - (E) Potatoes including seed potatoes are subject to (b) non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQs;

- (F) Seedlings of seed fruit and stone fruit are subject to (a) automatic licensing.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports for all products. Non-automatic licensing provides for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilisation.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

- 6.I. See horizontal replies.
- II.(A) See horizontal replies. In principle, non-automatic licences are granted for the period indicated in point 2.
- (B) See horizontal replies. Non-automatic licences for seed fruit products are issued for a maximum period of five months.
- (C) The size of the TQ is determined for the period from 1 May to 25 October. Non-automatic licences are issued for that period.
- (D) and (E): See horizontal replies. With the exception of table potatoes the non-automatic licences are issued for one year.
- III. See horizontal replies.
- IV. See horizontal replies.
- (A) and (C): With respect to non-automatic licences granted according to previous imports by the applicant, the licensing office sends the new licence to the importers at the beginning of each year. As regards other licensing systems, there is no time-limit for the submission of applications. They can be submitted throughout the year of opening of the TQ. Licences are issued primarily according to the applicants' previous imports.
- (B) For the issuing of non-automatic licences according to need, there is no time-limit for the submission of applications. They may be submitted throughout the year of opening of the TQ. The deadline for applications in the case of auctions is generally set at 15 working days following publication.
- (D) The licensing office sends the new licences to the importers at the beginning of each year.
- (E) With respect to non-automatic licences granted according to previous purchases of Swiss products, the licensing office sends the new licence to the importers at the beginning of each year. For the other systems, there is no time-limit for application, which may take place throughout the year of opening of the TQ.
- V. See horizontal replies. (B): The time-period for the examination of applications in connection with auctions is about five working days after the call for bids has been closed.

VI-VII. See horizontal replies.

- VIII.(A)For the vast majority of products, licences are issued according to previous imports by the applicant. New importers are given a minimum volume. For certain products, allocations are made *pro rata* to applications or in response to a contribution to domestic production.
- (B) Licences are mainly issued by auction. They may also be issued according to need (pectin) or on the basis of a contribution to Swiss production (concentrates of seed fruit juice). New importers may obtain a licence at each new allocation.
- (C) Licences are generally issued according to a combination of two criteria: previous imports by the applicant and purchase of local goods by the applicant. New importers receive a licence based on the volume of imports for the winter semester.
- (D) Licences are issued on the basis of a combination of two criteria: previous imports outside the TQ by the applicant, and purchase of local goods by the applicant.
- (E) Licences for fresh potatoes are issued in accordance with a contribution to local production. Licences for potato products are allocated by auction.

IX-XI. See horizontal replies.

- 7.(a) See horizontal replies. No time-limit. Emergency procedure by telephone or fax possible.
- (b-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Automatic licensing: See horizontal replies.
- Non-automatic licensing: See point 6.II.
- (A) The validity of the licence ranges from one month to 50 weeks according to the system of allocation in force (see point 2), and is not extendable.
- (B) The validity of the licence ranges from one month to one year according to the system of allocation in force. Licences valid for one month may be extended to a maximum of five months simply upon request.

- (C) The validity of the licence extends from 1 May to 25 October.
- (D) The licence is valid for one year.
- (E) The validity of the licence ranges from two months to one year according to the system of allocation in force.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) Subject in certain cases to the purchase of like products from Switzerland.
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (V) FEED GRAIN

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. The specific legal bases are the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on imports of seed-grain and feeding stuffs (RS 916.112.211) and the Ordinance of 6 July 1983 on the creation of compulsory reserves of fodder products, oats, barley and maize for milling (RS 531.215.17). The licensing system is administered by the OFAG and the Fiduciary Office of Swiss Holders of Compulsory Cereal Stocks (OSSOC - see Chapter III).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. The import of products governed by market regulations concerning feed grain and oilseeds for feeding is subject to automatic licensing.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports and maintenance of the system of reserve stocks (see Chapter III).
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

- 6. Not applicable.
- 7.(a) See horizontal replies. No time-limit. Emergency procedure by telephone or fax possible.
- (b-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) Automatic licences for goods subject to guarantee fund contributions are checked by the OSSOC. Automatic licences for other types of fodder are supervised by the OFAG.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

- 9.(a) Not applicable.
- (b) See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10-11. See horizontal replies. For statistical reasons, non-electronic customs clearance (customs model 90) requires prior notice to the OFAG.
- 12. Automatic licence against payment of a single fee of Sw F 100. Other charges: see horizontal replies.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Automatic licensing: no fees. Other expenses: see horizontal replies.
- 15. No.
- 16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) No.
- (b) Participation in the cost of establishing compulsory reserve stocks and, where applicable, conclusion of a contract providing for the establishment of a compulsory reserve stock (see Chapter III).

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies
- (VI) GRAIN FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION: DURUM WHEAT (A), COMMON WHEAT (B), COARSE GRAIN FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, SUCH AS BARLEY, OATS AND MAIZE (C)

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. The specific legal bases are the Law on Wheat of 20 March 1959 (RS 916.111.0), the General Ordinance of 16 June 1986 concerning the Law on Wheat (RS 916.111.01), the Ordinance of 10 November 1959 concerning supplementary wheat reserve stocks (RS 918.111.121) and the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 concerning seed-grain and feeding stuffs (RS 916.112.211). The licensing system is administered by the OSSOC (see Chapter III) for goods subject to contributions to the guarantee fund or to the supplementary reserve stocks. The OFAG grants licences for other products.

- 2. Importation of products governed by market regulations concerning grain for human consumption is subject to automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQ., is subject to an applied TQ. TQs for durum wheat (A), common wheat (B) and coarse grain for human consumption, such as barley, oats and maize (C) are not currently administered, i.e. importation at the TQ rate is not limited. As regards common wheat, millers are required to purchase local wheat for 85 per cent of the total amount processed in their mills.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports and the maintenance of the reserve stocks system (see Chapter III).
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6. Valid for coarse grain only (C).
- I. See horizontal replies.
- II. See horizontal replies.
- III. See horizontal replies. The right to import is restricted to millers who have the necessary manufacturing facilities (special mill). The controlling body is the Directorate-General of Customs.
- IV. Before the planned date of importation.
- V. The prior notice must be submitted the day preceding importation.
- VI. There is no minimum time-limit.
- VII. Applications are considered by the OSSOC for goods subject to contribution to the guarantee fund or to the supplementary reserve stocks, and by the OFAG for other products.
- VIII. See horizontal replies.
- IX-XI. See horizontal replies.
- 7.(a) See horizontal replies. The automatic licence must be obtained before importation. Emergency procedure by telephone or fax possible.
- (b-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10-11. See horizontal replies.
- 12. Automatic licence without fees. Other expenses: see horizontal replies.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Automatic licensing is for an unlimited duration.
- 15. No.
- 16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) (B): Purchase of like products from Switzerland. (A), (B): No.
- (b) Participation in the cost of establishing the compulsory reserve stock and, where appropriate, conclusion of a contract providing for the establishment of a compulsory reserve stock (see Chapter III).

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (VII) SUGAR (A), EDIBLE OILS AND FATS (B)

Outline of systems

- 1. See horizontal replies. The licensing system is administered by the Fiduciary Office of Swiss Foodstuff Importers (OFIDA), acting on instructions from the OFAG (and the Federal Office for National Economic Supply see Chapter III).
- (A) The specific legal bases is the Sugar Ordinance of 7 December 1998 (RS 916.114.11).
- (B) The specific legal basis is the Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on the importation of milk and dairy produce and of edible fats and oils as well as casein (RS 916.355.1).

- 2. The import of products governed by the market regulations concerning sugar and edible oils and fats are subject to automatic licensing.
- 3. See horizontal supplies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports and the maintenance of the system of reserve stocks (see Chapter III).

5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable.
- 7.(a-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) Only the OFIDA has the authority to issue licences.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) Not applicable.
- (b) Participation in the costs of establishing the compulsory reserve stock and, where appropriate, conclusion of a contract providing for the establishment of a compulsory reserve stock (see Chapter III).

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (VIII) GRAPES FOR PRESSING AND GRAPE JUICE

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. The specific legal base is the General Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on imports of agricultural products (RS 916.01). The automatic licensing system is administered by the OFAG. Since for independent reasons the TQ is not administered, there are no non-automatic licences for these products.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. Grapes for pressing (0806.1021) and grape juice (2009.6018, 6021, 6031; 2202.9018, 9041) are subject to automatic licensing only.
- 3-4. See horizontal replies.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

- 6. Not applicable.
- 7-8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies. In order to be eligible to market the products in question, the importer has to be listed in the commercial register and has to report the beginning of his commercial activities to the authority.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) Not applicable.
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (IX) RED WINE

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. Specific legal bases: See chapter I(viii), point 1. The licensing system is administered by the OFAG.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. Red wines (2204.2131/2149, 2931/2939) are subject to automatic licensing and non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQ.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for statistical control of imports. Non-automatic licensing provides for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of the utilisation.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

6.I. See horizontal replies. The TQ distribution is also published in the Official Swiss Trade Journal (Feuille officielle suisse du commerce - FOSC).

- II. See horizontal replies.
- III. See horizontal replies. Producers of agricultural commodities and their organisations are not excluded from access to TQs.
- IV-VI. See horizontal replies.
- VII. Only the OFAG has the power to decide whether or not imports are to be counted against the TQ, including retroactively (see TQ distribution method under the next point).
- VIII. See horizontal replies. The allocation of TQ shares takes place as needed. Licences are issued in chronological order of actual imports, upon customs clearance, as long as the TQ is not exhausted. In other words, the TQ is allocated in the order in which the customs declarations are received. The volume of imports under the TQ is recorded by the customs authorities. On the basis of this data, the OFAG determines when the TQ is exhausted and provides information to that effect. There is no maximum amount per importer.
- IX-XI. See horizontal replies.
- 7.(a-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies and Chapter I(viii), point 9.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17.(a) No.
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (X) WHITE WINE

Outline of systems

1. See horizontal replies. For specific legal bases see Chapter I(viii), point 1. The licensing system (allocation by auction) is administered by the OFAG.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. White wines (2204.2121/2129, 2921/2929) are subject to automatic licensing, and a non-automatic licensing as regards imports within the TQ.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. Automatic licensing provides for the statistical control of imports. Non-automatic licensing provides for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilisation.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6.I. See horizontal replies. The allocation of TQ shares is also published in February 1997 in the FOSC.
- II. See horizontal replies. Licences are valid for one year.
- III. See horizontal replies. Producers of agricultural commodities and their organisations are not excluded from access to the TQ.
- IV-V. The deadline for registration for the first year of application for the auction system (1997), i.e. 12 December 1996, was published on 20 November 1996. Allocations were communicated on 20 December 1996.
- VI. See preceding points and horizontal replies.
- VII. Licence applications are considered by the OFAG only.
- VIII. See horizontal replies. TQ shares are allocated by auction. Each year, the OFAG sets a deadline for registration. An importer may submit up to five bids at different prices and for different quantities up to a maximum of 10,000 hl. per importer. The TQ is distributed according to the bids in the decreasing order of prices until exhaustion. The quantities of the last bids taken into consideration, at the lowest price, are reduced according to the remaining amount of the TQ. TQ shares are awarded at the prices offered. The OFAG communicates the quantities allocated to the importers.
- IX-XI. See horizontal replies.
- 7.(a-c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) See point 6.VII.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. See horizontal replies and Chapter I(viii), point 9.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14-16 See horizontal replies. Non-automatic licences are valid for one year and are not extendable.
- 17.(a) Payment of the lowest successful tender price must take place before importation and, at the latest, 60 days following the entry into force of the award.
- (b) No.

Other procedural requirements

18-19. See horizontal replies.

II. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

(I) IMPORT, TRANSIT AND EXPORT OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Outline of systems

- 1. The Federal Veterinary Office (OFV) is responsible for issuing:
 - (a) The authorisations laid down by <u>veterinary law</u> for the importation of animals and goods, (Ordinance 20 April 1988 on the import, transit and export of animals and animal products (OITE; RS 916.443.11; Articles 25, 36, 49, 51, 54 and 57). These authorisations are police authorisations issued in accordance with the Law on Epizootics of 1 July 1966 (LFE: RS 916.40), the Law on Foodstuffs of 9 October 1992 (817.0), the Federal Law on Fishing of 21 June 1991 (RS 923.0) and the Law on the Protection of Animals (RS 455) of 9 March 1978.
 - (b) The authorisations laid down in the <u>laws on the protection of species</u> with respect to the import of animals and goods, (Ordinance of 19 August 1981 on the conservation of species (OCE RS 453, Article 5) and required under the Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 3 March 1973 (CITES; SR 0.453), the Law on the Protection of Animals of 9 March 1978 (RS 455) and the Law of 20 June 1986 on Hunting (RS 922.0).

- 2. (a) List of OITE products: see OITE, Article 1.
 - (b) List of products coming under the conservation of species: see OCE, Article 5.
- 3. No restrictions.
- 4. No restrictions. For purpose, see point 1.

5. See point 1. A particle modification of the regime would be possible, but would require the approval of Parliament on certain points (Law on Hunting).

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a) It is recommended that applications should be submitted at least one week in advance of importation. Authorisations concerning the species listed in Annex I of the CITES require a slightly longer time-limit owing to the procedure stipulated by the international treaty (consultation of scientific authorities). However, many applications are processed the day on which they are submitted.
- (b) Sometimes. In some cases an approval/opinion/authorisation is required from other services (Cantonary Veterinary Office, OFAG, Federal Office of the Environment, Forests and Landscape (OFEFP), Technical Commission for the Conservation of Species).
- (c) No.
- (d) See point 7(b). The procedure is generally regulated so that the applicant needs to approach two services (Federal Veterinary Office and Federal office of Agriculture).
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they domiciled in Switzerland. Specimens of the species appearing in Annex 1 of the CITES may only be imported for professional purposes, thereby automatically limiting the number of applicants. Holders of licences that are valid for one or two years are included in "lists of professional importers".

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies.
- 11. Import licence, veterinary certificate, CITES documents as appropriate.
- 12. Yes. Sw F 15.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. In general, three months. Possible extensions of twice two months (the licence must be sent with a brief extension request). For certain categories of animals or goods, so called "general" authorisations are issued. They are valid for one or two years for an indeterminate number of shipments and an undefined quantity.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.

17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. Sometimes. Subject to cantonal authorisations required by veterinary law and the laws on foodstuffs.
- 19. See horizontal replies.
- (II) PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

Outline of systems

1. This OFAG is responsible for issuing the authorisations required under phytosanitary law for the import of goods which could present a risk of transmitting plant pests and diseases.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Phytosanitary measures applying to the importation of plants, plant products and other items form three distinct regimes: Prohibition of imports, authorisation to import and phytosanitary certificate. A distinction is drawn within these regimes between goods from any country and goods from non-member countries of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO).

The products in question are essentially those listed under the following customs tariff chapters:

- 6 (live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage);
- 7 (edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers);
- 8 (edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons);
- 10 (cereals):
- 12 (oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder);
- 31 (fertilisers).
- 3. See item 2.
- 4. No. The purpose of the measures is to prevent the introduction of quarantine organisms affecting plants. The regimes governing plants, plant products and other items are frequently revised according to the phytosanitary situation in the territory of Switzerland (e.g. the abolition, on 1 January 1996, of the system of phytosanitary certificates for seed fruit and stone fruit from the member countries of the EPPO).
- 5. Legal bases: Law on Agriculture of 29 April 1998 (RS 910.1), Ordinance of 5 March 1962 on Plant Protection (RS 916.20), Ordinance of 28 April 1982 on the control of San José scale, fire blight and fruit trees virus diseases constituting a general danger (RS 916.22). The items subject to the different regimes are set forth in the Ordinance on Plant Protection. The OFAG may take measures in cases where new quarantine organisms appear, but it must promptly submit such measures to the Federal Council for approval. The government has the authority under the law to decide on the items that are subject to the regimes described in point 2 above.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no restrictions).
- 7.(a) For items subject to import licensing, applications must be submitted two weeks in advance of importation to the Federal Phytosanitary Service at the OFAG. Imports of goods under the phytosanitary certificate regime must be announced to the said service 24 hours in advance.
- (b) Applications for import licences submitted after the deadline mentioned in 7(a) are processed as quickly as possible, but without any guarantee that the applicants will receive the licences by the requested date.
- (c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) All applications for import licences for the items mentioned in point 2 are dealt with by the Federal Phytosanitary Service.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for a licence

9. All persons, firms or institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies. Applications for an import licence must mention the place of origin of the goods, the type of goods, the quantity, the producer and the consignee. There is no specific form.
- 11. The licence, and in certain cases, a phytosanitary certificate.
- 12. Sw F 5 per licence application.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. The period of validity of an import licence is limited according to the type of goods imported. Extensions are granted upon written request.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. The goods subject to the regime described above are controlled by the Phytosanitary Service upon import. The Phytosanitary Service is the OFAG's control body in the field of plant protection.
- 19. See horizontal replies.

(III) FOREST REPRODUCTIVE MATERIAL

Outline of systems

1. The Federal Directorate of Forestry is responsible for issuing the authorisations required by the regulations governing the import and export of forest reproductive material. The purpose of these measures remains above all to ensure the use of healthy and appropriate forest reproductive material at the place of reforestation.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. The regulations cover certain varieties of trees that are important for Swiss forestry (11 varieties of conifers and 31 varieties of leaf-bearing trees). See also Annex 1 to the Ordinance on Forest Reproductive Material).
- 3. Countries in which the tree varieties in question grow naturally and permanently (Europe, North America and Japan).
- 4. No. The purpose of the Ordinance is to ensure the supply of appropriate forest reproductive material, i.e. suited to the geographical and climatic conditions of Switzerland.
- 5. Federal Law on Forests of 4 October 1991 (LFo; RS 921.0); Ordinance on Forests of 30 November 1992 (LOFo; RS 921.01); Ordinance of 29 November 1994 on Forest Reproductive Material (SR 921.552.1). The tree varieties subject to the Ordinance are listed in Annex I thereto.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restriction).
- 7.(a) 14 days.
- (b) Only where justified.
- (c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) Applications for import licences are examined by the Federal Directorate of Forestry, which also issues the licence.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms or institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. See horizontal replies. The application for an import licence must mention the variety of tree, the origin, the quantity, the supplier and the buyer. The importer must include in the application a certificate of origin for the varieties of trees. There is no specific form.

- 11. Import licence and certificate of origin.
- 12. A fee is charged for all import licence applications (to cover administrative expenses).
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

14. The imports licence is valid for six months, extendable for another six months on request.

15-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (IV) FOREST PLANTS

Outline of systems

1. The Federal Directorate of Forestry is responsible for issuing the authorisations required by the regulations governing the protection of forest plants. The purpose of these measures remains above all to ensure the use of healthy forest plants.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. Regulations for the protection of forest plants in connection with the trans-boundary traffic of goods (see Annex 3 of the Ordinance on the Protection of Forest Plants, which contains the list of forest products whose import is prohibited).
- 3. See point 2.
- 4. No. The purpose of the conditions is to prevent the introduction of new pests that are dangerous for forestry; they consist in phytosanitary measures that are in conformity with the FAO International Convention and the recommendations of the EPPO.
- 5. Federal Law on Forests of 4 October 1991 (LFo; SR 921.0), Ordinance of 30 November 1992 on the protection of forest plants in connection with the trans-boundary traffic of goods (SR 921.541).

- 6. Not applicable (no restrictions).
- 7.(a) Import and export licences are issued subject to prior submission of an application (time-limit: 7 to 14 days). The import of goods subject to phytosanitary conditions must be announced 24 hours in advance of importation to the Federal Plants Protection Service or a customs office.
- (b) Applications submitted with a very short time-limit are processed as rapidly as possible.
- (c) See horizontal replies.

- (d) Applications are usually processed by an official organisation. In the case of tree-seedlings, applications for import licences must be co-ordinated in respect of rules of origin. In the field of plants or parts of plants, the agricultural and forestry sectors co-ordinate their activities, i.e. applications are examined by two officers.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms or institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided that they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies. An application for an import licence must mention the type of good, the place of origin, the quantity, the producer, the importer, the forwarding agent and the border point.
- 11. The licence and/or phytosanitary certificate.
- 12. Administrative fee of Sw F 5-Sw F 20. If the required documents are not produced (see point 11), there is a Sw F 20-Sw F 50 phytosanitary control charge.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

14. The validity of the import licence depends on the product imported and the time-span required for importation (import in batches etc.), and is extendable on request.

15-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. Products subjected to phytosanitary conditions undergo spot controls by the Federal Phytosanitary Service.
- 19. See horizontal replies.
- (V) BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS AND IMMUNOBIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE

Outline of systems

1. The Federal Public Health Office (OFSP) is the body responsible for the implementation of the Federal Decree of 22 March 1996 on the control of blood, blood products and transplants (RS 818.111; RO 1996 2296) and for the control of trade in immunobiological products in accordance with Article 30 of the Federal Law of 18 December 1970 on the campaign against diseases transmissible by human beings (Law on Epidemics; RS 818.101). For the importation of blood and blood products and for imports of immunobiological products for human use, an import licence is required. The procedures for obtaining such a licence are described, *inter alia*, in the Ordinance of 26 June 1996 on the control of

blood, blood products and transplants (Ordinance on Blood Control; RS 818.111.3) and the Ordinance 23 August 1989 concerning immunobiological products (RS 812.111).

The Decree aims to guarantee safety in the handling of blood, blood products and transplants, in particular with a view to protecting donors and recipients.

Purpose and coverage of licensing

- 2. A licence is required each time blood, blood products or immunobiological products are imported. For the products subject to this procedure, see the relevant Ordinances.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. The import licence granted when the products are in conformity with the relevant laws.
- 5. See horizontal replies and point 1.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a) See horizontal replies.
- (b) Exceptionally.
- (c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) The OFSP is the sole organ responsible for examining applications for authorisation.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Institutions wishing to import products subject to authorisation must obtain the necessary authorisation from the OFSP in accordance with the relevant laws. The authorisation is granted if the institution meets certain specific operational and organisational conditions. The OFSP regularly controls compliance with these conditions. The procedure for obtaining authorisation is regulated by the relevant ordinance. The list of authorised concerns is regularly published in the OFSP Bulletin. Moreover, registered products may only be imported by the institutions in whose name they are registered.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies. Other certificates may be requested for a more detailed examination of the quality of the products.
- 11. See horizontal replies.
- 12. Sw F 50 per licence.
- 13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The period of validity of the licence is one month, generally without possibility of extension.

15-17. No

Other procedural requirements

- 18. Certain products, such as immunobiological products, must be registered beforehand by the OFSP or the Inter-cantonal Office for the Control of Medicaments. Moreover, imported batches of registered products are controlled by one of the above-mentioned organs before being introduced into the market.
- 19. See horizontal replies.
- (VI) NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND PRECURSORS USED AND MARKETED FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

Outline of systems

1. Article 5 of the Federal Law on Narcotics of 3 October 1951 (LStup; RS 812.121) stipulates that a special permit is required from the OFSP for all imports (or exports) of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. Chapter 4 of the Federal Ordinance on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 29 May 1996 (OStup; RS 812.121.1) and Section 3 of the Ordinance of 29 May 1996 on precursors and other chemical substances used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (OPrec; RS 812.121.3) lay down the procedures for the granting of import permits (and export permits).

According to the substance involved, the OFSP may issue single permits valid once for import (or export), or general authorisations valid for imports (or exports) carried out over a specific period of time up to a maximum of one year (only for narcotic drugs partially exempted from control under Article 3, paragraph (b) of OStup, and precursors). All substances that are subject to the permit system appear in the OFSP Ordinance on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 12 December 1996 (OFSP-OStup; RS 812.121.2) and OFSP Ordinance of 8 November 1996 on precursors and other chemical substances used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (OFSP-OPrec; RS 812.121.31). The OFSP, through the Control and Licences Section of its Pharmacy Division, is the organ responsible for granting import/export permits. More detailed information may be obtained from that organ.

- 2. See point 1, paragraph 2.
- 3. No restrictions.
- 4. The purpose of the licensing system is to ensure that imports are carried out for the sole purpose of satisfying legitimate medical and industrial needs.
- 5. See point 1. The licensing system is maintained under Federal Law. The Government would not have the authority to abolish them. It can, however, change certain details of the system, i.e. the

above-mentioned Ordinances. There is no delegation of authority to the administration. There is however a limited delegation of authority to the administration (to the FOPH), because the Ordinances of the FOPH (812.121.2 of December 12, 1996 and 812.121.31 of November 8, 1996 which include lists of all controlled substances that are subject to the permit system, are under the authority of the FOPH.

- 6.I. The quantities that can be imported (and exported) are limited through a system of estimates coordinated by the UN and its International Narcotics Control Board (INCB). Each country must report its annual needs in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to the INCB. If need be, requests for adaptations of the estimates may be submitted to the INCB, which approves them if they are legitimate. The INCB publishes the estimates for all of the countries, and updates them on a monthly basis.
- II. The estimates are sent once a year to the INCB. Import (and export) permits are issued only if the estimates have not been exceeded. Where they have been exceeded, a request for an additional estimate must be forwarded to the INCB.
- III. Licences are granted only to holders of a cantonal authorisation to manufacture or to market narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances or precursor chemicals. A copy of each licence granted is sent to the authorities concerned for each transaction.
- IV. There is no time-limit for the submission of applications provided the amount of the estimate permits the licence to be issued.
- V. The minimum length of time required for granting an import (or export) licence is 24 hours and the average time is 48 to 72 hours, assuming that all of the documentational and other requirements have been met. Where there is no estimate or the estimate is insufficient (a few cases each year), the time-limits are extended to as much as three weeks.
- VI. See horizontal replies.
- VII. As a rule, only the OFSP considers licence applications. If need be, the OFSP co-operates with the cantons concerned.
- VIII. As a rule, all applications for licences are satisfied.
- IX. See horizontal replies.
- X. The importing country is informed of any export licence granted by receiving a copy of the licence.
- XI. No.
- 7. Not applicable.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions may apply for a licence provided they are holders of a cantonal authorisation to manufacture or market narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances or precursor chemicals. The OFSP publishes lists of persons, firms and institutions authorised by the cantons in accordance with the criteria of the Ordinance on Narcotic Drugs.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. The importer sends a written application for an import licence, listing the products to be imported and the corresponding quantities. There is no specific form.
- 11. A copy of the authorisation issued by the OFSP must be presented to customs.
- 12. Sw F 100 for a single licence, Sw F 200 for a general licence.
- 13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. Single import licences are valid six months, extendable upon request by a maximum of twice three months. The validity of a general import licence is 12 months, extendable, upon request, by another 12 months.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18-19. See horizontal replies.
- (VII) ETHANOL

Outline of the systems

The private sector is allowed to import ethanol and spirits containing not more than 80 % by volume without restriction and without any permit. For control reasons, only the Swiss Confederation is entitled through the Swiss Alcohol Board to import ethanol whose alcohol content exceeds 80 % by volume. However, imports by the private sector are possible subject to prior authorisation by the Swiss Alcohol Board.

- 1. See point 1.
- 2. These regulations apply to imports of all ethanol, whatever its origin.
- 3. No.

4. The alcohol legislation is based on Article 105 of the Federal Constitution, which gives the Confederation the sole right to legislate in this field. The specific legal basis for the procedure of import licences is the Federal Law on Alcohol of 21 June 1932 (article 27).

Procedures

- 5. Import licences are generally only granted for ethanol qualities which are not put on the market by the Swiss Alcohol Board itself. However, alcosuisse, a profit centre of the Swiss Alcohol Board which has responsibility for the importation and the sale of ethanol, endeavours to provide its clients with special ethanol qualities on request.
- 6. See horizontal replies.
- 7. See horizontal replies

Conditions of Licensing

The application has to be submitted to the Swiss Alcohol Board. The validity is of the licence is generally limited to a single importation.

III. GOODS OF VITAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE SUBJECT TO COMPULSORY HOLDING OF STOCKS

Outline of systems

1. In accordance with Article 8 of the Federal Law on National Economic Supply (LAP; RS 531), the Federal Council may subject certain goods of vital importance for which domestic production is non-existent or insufficient to compulsory holding of stocks. To that end, it places the products concerned under the import licensing regime. The granting of a licence is conditional upon the conclusion of a reserve stock contract.

- 2. To ensure the compulsory holding of stocks, the Federal Council has placed the following goods of vital importance under the import licensing regime:
 - Fuels, including liquid fuels (Swiss Central Office for the Import of Fuels, CARBURA);
 - sugar, rice, edible oils and fats, coffee (Fiduciary Office of Swiss Foodstuff Importers, OFIDA);
 - durum wheat and bread grain for human consumption (Fiduciary Office of Swiss Holders of Compulsory Cereal Stocks, OSSOC);
 - feed grain and course grain (barley, oats and wheat) for human consumption (OSSOC);
 - antibiotics (Fiduciary Office of Swiss Importers of Antibiotics, OFISA);
 - fertilisers (Fiduciary Office of Swiss Owners of Compulsory Stocks of Fertilisers, OFSE);

- lubrication oil (Swiss Association of Importers of Lubrication Oil, VSS).

The above bodies grant general import licences under the authority of the Federal Office for National Economic Supply. They allow importers to import the listed goods from all countries without quantitative restrictions and for an unlimited period of time.

- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. No. The purpose of automatic licensing is to ensure the compulsory holding of stocks. The size of the compulsory reserve stocks of each importer is determined on the basis of the imports carried out (equal treatment for all importers).
- 5. Legal bases: Federal Law on National Economic Supply as well as the ordinances on compulsory reserve stocks specific to each product (SR 531. 215.11, 215.12, 215.13, 215.14, 215.17, 215.25, 215.31, 215.41, 215.48). The Government may place products of vital importance under the import licensing regime.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a-b) Applications for a general import licence must be submitted a few days before importation. In urgent cases, the licence may be granted immediately by fax.
- (c) No.
- (d) Applications are reviewed by a single service (see point 2).
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms or institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10-13. See horizontal replies.

Conditions of licensing

14-17. See horizontal replies.

Other procedural requirements

18-19. See horizontal replies.

IV. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

(I) WAR MATERIAL

Outline of systems

1. Importation of War Material is subject to the authorisation regime laid down in the Federal Law on War Material of 13 December 1996 (RS 514.51) and the Ordinance on War Material of 25 February 1998 (RS 514.511). The Law and the Ordinance do not apply to imports of war material for the Swiss Army.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. The war material whose import is subject to authorisation is listed in Annex 1 of the Ordinance.
- 3. All countries.
- 4. The purpose of the regime is to establish control on the origin, nature and destination of the war material in question.
- 5. The regime of authorisations for the import of war material is laid down in Article 107, paragraph 2 of the Federal Constitution (RS 101). Thus, the Government does not have the authority to abolish it. The products subjected to this regime are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on War Material, which is a governmental text.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a-b) There are no standards required by the law nor the ordinance yet as a recommendation, applications for authorisation should be submitted at least seven days in advance of the scheduled date of importation. In exceptional cases, the treatment of applications may be accomplished in a shorter period.
- (c) No.
- (d) One single organ (the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs seco, Division export controls and sanctions, of the Federal Economic Department) is responsible for examining applications for authorisation.
- 8. Authorisations are not granted if they interfere with international law or if they are not in the interest of Switzerland. Refusals have to be announced in a decision that contain the reasons for the denial. The right to appeal is guaranteed by the federal law on procedures.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any person, firm or institution is eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. The applications for import-authorisations must contain the name and address of the supplier and of the importer/applicant, a precise description of the war material, its weight and its value, its customs tariff number and its category (in accordance with the list in annex 1 of the ordinance), the country from where the import will take place and (if possible) and the scheduled date of the import.
- 11. Import licence.
- 12. 0,8% of the value of the imported goods, but at least Sw F 50 and at the most Sw F 5'000 per licence.
- 13. No.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. The authorisation to import is valid for one year. It is possible to obtain one extension of six month.
- 15-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. No.
- 19. No.
- (II) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION (CWC)

Outline of systems

1. The import of chemicals controlled by Schedule 1 of the CWC are subject to an import licence pursuant to the Swiss Federal Law on the Control of Goods for Civilian and Military Purposes and Specific Military Goods (RS 946.202) of December 13, 1996; the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Government on dual-use chemicals (ChKV) of September 3, 1997, and the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs on dual-use chemicals (ChKV-EVD) of September 12, 1997 (RS 946.202.21) and the amendment of August 31, 1999 (RS 946.202.211).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. The Schedule 1 chemicals which are concerned are listed in the Annex of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs on dual-use chemicals (ChKV-EVD)
- 3. From all countries.
- 4. The purpose of the regime is to prevent the development, the production, the stockpiling and use of chemical weapons.

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5. Switzerland has signed the international binding CWC and is therefore obliged to comply with the provisions of this Convention. The products which are subject to this regime are listed in the Annex of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs on dual-use chemicals CHKV-EDV).

Procedures

- 6. The aggregate amount of such chemicals at any time must not exceed 1 tonne. Each importer has to notify the Government on the total amount of imported Schedule 1 chemicals. This has to be done at latest 60 days following the end of a calendar year.
- 7.(a-b) Applications for authorisations must be submitted at <u>least 40</u> days in advance of the scheduled date of importation. In the relevant Ordinance there are no exceptions foreseen for a shorter period. Licences are granted on a case by case basis.
- (c) No.
- (d) The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco), Division export controls and sanctions, industrial products is responsible for examining an application for a licence.
- 8. Licences are only granted if the purpose of the importation is not against the provisions of the CWC.
- 9. Any person, firm or institution is eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for a licence application

- 10. The applications for import authorisations must contain the name and address of the supplier, the importer and applicant, the chemical name and the structural formula of the product inclusive the Chemical Abstracts Service registry number (CAS), the quantity, the country of origin, the shipping country, the scheduled date of the import. The following documents must be presented: Official application form, invoice, a detailed description with regard to the final end-use purpose of the chemicals. An undertaking that the chemicals will exclusively be used for research, medical, pharmaceutical or protective purposes in accordance with the provisions of the CWC.
- 11. Import licence.
- 12. There is no licensing fee or administrative charge.
- 13. No.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. The import authorisation is valid for one year. However, this time frame can be extended for another six month period.
- 15-17. The importer has to notify the Government on the total amount of imported Schedule 1 chemicals during the passed year. This has to be done at latest 60 days following the end of a calendar year.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. No.
- 19. Not concerned.
- (III) WEAPONS, THEIR ACCESSORIES AND AMMUNITION

Outline of systems

1. The new Federal Law on Weapons, Accessories and Ammunition (Weapons Act, RS 514.54) and the regulation of the same name (RS 514.541) became effective on January 1, 1999. These statutes supplement the federal Laws on War Material and on the Control of Dual-Use Goods. Small arms (shoulder weapons and handguns) and other weapons, such as knives, truncheons, as well as integral parts of weapons, accessories and ammunition are subject to these provisions. Some goods are subject to both the law on war material and the weapons legislation.

The import of goods that fall within the purview of the above federal laws is subject to licence. Goods imported for commercial or industrial purposes are subject to authorization by the Central Office for Arms at the Federal Office of Police (Federal Department of Justice and Police). Import of goods by private individuals for private ends or personal use is subject to authorization by cantonal authorities.

Purposes and Coverage of Licensing

- 2. Article 4 of the Federal Weapons Act (WA) and articles 3, 4, and 5 of the Regulation on Weapons (RW) define the kind of weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition that are subject to import licence. Pursuant to art. 48 of the Regulation, the import of weapons, integral parts of weapons and accessories as defined in article 4 (2) is subject to special licence.
- 3. The import of weapons, integral parts of weapons, accessories, ammunition, and parts of ammunition is governed by the Weapons Act and the Regulation on Weapons. These provisions apply irrespective of the country from which such goods are imported.
- 4. The purpose of import regulations is to prevent abuse of weapons, integral parts of weapons, accessories, ammunition, or parts of ammunition.
- 5. The import licensing procedure is governed by the above legal provisions, in particular articles 23–25 Weapons Act and articles 24–27 Regulation on Weapons. The executive branch has no power to abrogate these provisions. Under article 25 (4) Weapons Act, the Government has authority to make exceptional provisions regarding weapons, ammunition and parts of ammunition used in hunting and shooting (cf. art. 26 Regulation of Firearms). Procedures
- 6.(I.) Customs authorities supply statistical reports on imports (quantity, commodity value, country of consignment).

The import for noncommercial purposes of weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition is subject to licence (art. 25 WA). The licence entitles the holder to import not more than three pieces of weapon or integral parts of weapons at a time (art.

24(3)RW). Under article 23 (1) Weapons Act imports must be declared officially and in accordance with the provisions laid down in article 6 (a) of the Customs Act.

Pursuant to art. 48 Regulation on Weapons, cantonal licensing authorities may issue a special import licence. This special licence will be issued to one specific person and by way of exception only. The granting of a special licence may be subject to certain obligations (art. 48 (2) RW).

- (II) Authorization for the import for noncommercial purposes of weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition must be limited in time (art. 25 (3) WA). The import licence gives a right to import within the period specified not more than three pieces of weapon or integral parts of weapons at a time (art. 24 (3) RW).
- (III) Only weapons, integral parts of weapons, accessories, ammunition, and parts of ammunition itemized in article 4 Weapons Act and articles 3–5 Regulation on Weapons qualify for import. Pursuant to article 48 Regulation on Weapons, the import of weapons and integral parts of weapons that fall under the scope of art. 5 (1) Weapons Act, and accessories as defined in art. 4 (2) Weapons Act, requires a special import licence.

Licences issued for import for noncommercial purposes are valid for a limited period only and give a right to import not more than three pieces of weapon or integral parts of weapons at a time within the period specified (art. 24 Regulation of Firearms). After expiration of the period specified, a new licence may be applied for. Nonuse of a licence has no cumulative effect, that is, unused allocations may not be added to quotas for a succeeding period.

The names of authorized importers are made known on request only.

- (IV) Owing to different cantonal administrative structures, the handling of a licence application for noncommercial import of either of the goods in question may vary, depending on the canton responsible for the granting of a licence.
- (V) The law is silent on the validity of the licence for noncommercial imports.
- (VI.) After the granting of an import licence, the holder may effect import immediately.
- (VII) Owing to different cantonal administrative structures, more than one agency may be involved in the licensing procedure (art. 25 (3) WA).

Foreign nationals who are not in possession of a permission to reside in Switzerland permanently are required to submit an official confirmation issued by the competent authority of the place or state in which they have taken up residence, certifying that they are authorised to purchase a weapon or an integral part of a weapon (art. 24 WA in conjunction with art. 12(3) WA).

Article 17 Regulation on Weapons prohibits the import of certain types of ammunition. The Central Office for Arms and Ammunition may grant a special licence.

(VIII) Not applicable.

- (IX.) Not applicable
- (X.) Not applicable
- (XI.) Not applicable
- 7.(a) The import for commercial purposes of weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, or parts of ammunition is subject to licence. Under article 21 Regulation on Weapons import regulations also apply to goods placed under warehousing arrangements.
- (b) Import licences are issued on request and provided that the applicant holds a gun dealer licence (art. 24. WA).
- (c) The validity of the import licence is limited (art. 24 (5) WA) and valid for twelve months only (art. 22 (3) RW).
- (d) Pursuant to article 24 (5) Weapons Act and article 17 (3) Regulation on Weapons, the Central Office for Arms and Ammunition issues licences for the import for commercial purposes of weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition as defined in article 17 Regulation on Weapons.
- 8. The licence to import for commercial purposes weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition will be issued provided that the applicant meets the requirements established in article 24 Weapons Act and article 22 Regulation on Weapons. The Central Office verifies the veracity of the statements made by the applicant (art. 22 (2) RW; art 24 (2) WA). The licensing authority has discretionary powers.

Article 30 Weapons Act provides the conditions under which a licence may be with revoked. The Federal Administrative Procedures Law (VwVG; SR 172.021) governs the appeals procedure in cases in which a licence application has been denied or revoked.

Eligibility of Importers to Apply for Licence

9.(a) Swiss citizens and foreign nationals resident in Switzerland are eligible for an import licence for non-commercial purposes. The same requirements apply irrespective of citizenship.

Foreign nationals who are not in possession of a permission to reside in Switzerland permanently are required to submit an official confirmation issued by the competent authority of the place or state in which they reside, certifying that they are authorized to purchase a weapon or an integral part of a weapon (art. 24 in conjunction with art 12 (3) WA). Under certain circumstances the Swiss Government may impose restrictions (art. 7 WA).

(b) Only holders of a gun dealer licence are eligible for a commercial import licence, authorizing to import weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition (art. 24 (2) WA).

The Central Office maintains a database on the purchase of weapons by foreign nationals who are not in possession of a permission to reside in Switzerland permanently (art. 40 (2a) RW). The law does not provide for a list of authorized importers to be published.

Documentational and Other Requirements for Application for Licence

10. Applicants for a licence to import for commercial purposes weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition are required to complete a printed form and file it, together with a photocopy of the gun dealer licence, to the Central Office for Arms (art. 22 (1) RW).

Applicants for a licence to import for noncommercial purposes weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition are required to complete a printed form and file it to the competent licensing authority. The following documents must be included (art. 24 (1) RW):

- (a) extract from the register of convictions (not older than three months);
- (b) photocopy of an official identification card.

Foreign nationals who are not in possession of a permission to reside in Switzerland permanently are required to submit an official confirmation issued by the competent authority of the place or state in which they reside, certifying that they are authorized to purchase a weapon or an integral part of a weapon (art. 24 in conjunction with art. 12 (3) WA).

- 11. No further documents are required upon actual import.
- 12. The licensing fees are:

150 Swiss francs (import for commercial purposes (art. 35 (I) RW)); 50 Swiss francs (import for non-commercial purposes (art. 35 (n) RW)).

Fees for special licences to import weapons and integral parts of weapons as defined in article 5 (1) Weapons Act range from 20 to 150 Swiss francs (art. 35 (c) RW).

Fees up to 200 Swiss francs may be charged beforehand or collected on delivery. A deposit is not provided by the law.

Conditions of Licensing

14. The licence to import for commercial purposes weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition is valid twelve months (art. 22 (3) RW). Upon expiration, a new licence may be applied for.

The licence to import for non-commercial purposes weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition are limited in time (art. 25 (3) WA). Upon expiration, a new licence may be applied for.

The validity of special licences granted by the cantons to import weapons and accessories as listed in article 5 (1) a and e WA are limited in time. As a rule, special licences are valid six months. Upon expiration, a new licence may be applied for.

- 15. Holders of a licence are free to make use of the licence, or a portion of it, as they see fit. There is no penalty for the non-utilisation of a licence.
- 16. Import licences are made out to holder and are not transferable.

- 17.(a) The Government may prohibit nationals of certain states from purchasing weapons, integral parts of weapons, ammunition, and parts of ammunition (art. 7 (1) in conjunction with art. 9 RW). Under article 17 Regulation on Weapons, the import of certain types of ammunition is prohibited.
- (b) No further restrictions.

Other Procedural Requirements

- 13. No further restrictions
- 14. There is freedom of exchange operations.
- (IV) EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS AND PYROTECHNIC DEVICES FOR CIVILIAN USE

Outline of systems

1. The Federal Act on Explosive Substances of March 25, 1977 (SR 941.41) and the Regulation on Explosive Substances of March 26, 1980, (SR 941.411) govern the importation of explosives and pyrotechnic devices.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. Articles 2, 3, and 4 of the Regulation define explosives and pyrotechnic devices which are subject to import authorization.
- 3. All countries.
- 4. The import licensing procedure is needed to guarantee public safety in Switzerland in the area in question.
- 5. The above statutory provisions govern the import licensing procedure. These provisions can not be repealed by the Government. However, article 15 (3) of the Regulation (as amended on March 9, 1998) provides that the Federal Department of Justice and Police may exempt certain pyrotechnic devices from the requirement of authorization, provided that these devices are an integral part of articles which themselves are subject to a recognized licensing procedure (e.g. pyrotechnic propellant charges as used in air bag units of cars).

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7 (a) The licence for the importation of current explosives and pyrotechnic devices shall be granted within a few days' time. The procedure for the licensing of articles which are subject to prior approval procedures may take up to six months.
- (b) By way of exception, a licence may be granted by telephone and without delay.
- (c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) Applications for importation are dealt with by a single administrative organ.

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8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any person, firm and institution is eligible to apply for licences.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies. The following information is required in applications: applicant's name and address; type and quantity of the product to be imported and chemical composition; manufacturer's or importer's name; warehouse of destination in Switzerland. (Regarding explosives, information on impact and friction sensibility is also required.)
- 11. Import licence.
- 12. Depending on the time and effort spent, the licensing fees may range from 50 to 1000 Swiss francs.
- 13. No

Conditions of licensing

14. Import authorization is valid for three months. It is possible to obtain two extensions of three months each.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

- 18. 19. See horizontal replies.
- (V) NUCLEAR FUEL, DEBRIS AND WASTE

Outline of systems

1. The import of nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities is subject to an authorisation regime under the Federal Law on Atomic Energy of 23 December 1959 (RS 732.0) and the Ordinance of 18 January 1984 on definitions and authorisations in the atomic energy field (RS 732.11).

Importation of radioactive materials other than nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities is subject to the authorisation regime set forth in the Federal Law on Radiation Protection of 22 March 1991 (RS 814.50) and the Ordinance on Radiation Protection of 22 June 1994 (RS 814.501).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

- 2. See point 1.
- 3. See horizontal replies.
- 4. The purpose of the regime is to establish control on the origin, nature and destination of nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities within the framework of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and bilateral co-operation agreements.

5. See horizontal replies and point 1. The licensing regime is governed by federal laws which the Government does not have the authority to abolish. The Government may, however, change the details of the regime, i.e. the above-mentioned Ordinances. There is no delegation of authority to the administration.

Procedures

- 6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a) The application for import must be submitted two months in advance of the scheduled importation date. In exceptional cases, the time-limit may be shortened.
- (b) No.
- (c) See horizontal replies.
- (d) Applications for authorisation are examined by the Nuclear Energy Section of the Federal Energy Office (which has the authority to grant the licence) and the Main Division for the Safety of Nuclear Facilities (responsible for the transport of class 7 dangerous goods). No list of authorised importers is published.
- 8. See horizontal replies.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions meeting the requirements set forth in the relevant laws and ordinances are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. See horizontal replies. There is no specific form.
- 11. Import licence, container certificate and validation.
- 12. The licensing fee is Sw F 300 to Sw F 1,000.
- 13. No.

Conditions of licensing

- 14. The import authorisation is valid for a maximum of 12 months. In principle, it is not renewable.
- 15-16. See horizontal replies.
- 17. No.

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Other procedural requirements

- 18. An authorisation for heavy vehicles (more than 28 tonnes) could be required for road transport, as well as a licence for the transport of dangerous goods.
- 19. See horizontal replies.

List of Documents²

2.

3.

I. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

- (i) Horses (A), livestock and breeding animals, bovine semen (B)
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for the importation of bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine livestock and breeding animals"
 - Form "Application for a quota share for bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine livestock" (green)
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for the importation of horses included under customs tariff headings 0101 ex. 0101.110/2099"
- (ii) Animals for slaughter, meat, prepared meat products and eggs
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for the importation of meat and meat products of animals included under customs tariff headings 0101 to 0104 (including cattle for slaughter)"
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for dead poultry, edible offal etc."
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for prepared meat products"
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for eggs and egg products"
- (iii) Milk, dairy produce (A), acid casein (B)
 - Form "Application for a general import permit (PGI) for cheese"
 - Form "General import permit (PGI) for milk and dairy produce"
 - Form "Application for a general permit (PGI) for acid casein"
- (iv) Fresh fruit and vegetables (A), fruit for cider and fruit products (B), cut flowers, (C), frozen vegetables (D), potatoes (including seed potatoes) and potato products (E), fruit seedlings (F)
 - Form "General import permit (PGI) for fresh fruit and vegetables"
 - Form "General import permit (PGI) for fruit products"
 - Form "Application for a general import permit (PGI) for cut flowers"

²Available for consultation at the Secretariat (Market Access Division) (in French only).

- Form "General import permit (PGI) for frozen vegetables"
- Form "General import permit for table potatoes and potato products for human consumption"
- Form "General import permit for potatoes for transformation"
- Form "General import permit for seed potatoes"
- Form "General import permit for semifinished potatoes product and potato products for human consumption"
- Form "General import permit for seed-fruit and stone-fruit seedlings"
- Form "Application for import at reduced customs duty of fruit seedlings"

(v) Feed grain

- Ordinance of 6 July 1983 on the creation of compulsory reserve stocks of fodder products, oats, barley and maize for milling
- Form "Application for a general import permit (PGI)"
- Form "General permit for import (PGI)"
- (vii) Sugar (A), edible oils and fats (B)
 - Form "Application for general import permit (PGI)"
 - Form "General import permit for the import of sugar"

II. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

- (i) Import, transit and export of animals and animal products
 - Ordinance of 20 April 1988 concerning the import, transit and export of animals and animal products (OITE; RS 916.443.11)
 - Law on Epizootics of 1 July 1966 (LFE; RS 916.40)
 - Law on Foodstuffs of 9 October 1992 (RS 817.0)
 - Federal Law on Fishing of 21 June 1991 (RS 923.0)
 - Law on Protection of Animals of 9 March 1978 (RS 455)
 - Ordinance on the Conservation of Species of 19 August (OCE; RS 453)

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 3 March 1973 (CITES; SR 0.453)
- Law on Hunting of 20 June 1986 (RS 922.0)
 - Amendments from 26 June 1996 to 1 November 1989 (2)
- Document "Conditions governing the import of one-day chicks and eggs for hatching of breeding poultry"
- Document "Washington Convention on the Conservation of Species: authorization procedures for the import and export of animals"
- Form "Import authorization" (animals and animal products yellow)
- Form "Import authorization for protected animals and plants and their derivatives"
- Form "Authorization to export and re-import animals or import them temporarily"
- Form "Import authorization for prepared meat products"
- Form "Import authorization for meat and meat products on a basis of rabbit and game meat"
- Form "Import authorization for poultry meat and products on a basis of poultry meat"

(ii) Plants and plant products

- "Phytosanitary Certificate" according to IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention)

(iii) Forest reproductive material

- Federal Law on Forests of 4 October 1991 (LFo; RS 921.0)
- Ordinance on Forests of 30 November 1992 (OFo; RS 921.01)
- Ordinance on Forest Reproductive Material of 29 November 1994 (RS 921.552.1)

(iv) Forest plants

- (RS 921.0; c.f. II(iii))
- Ordinance of 30 November 1992 on the protection of forest plants in connection with the trans-boundary traffic of goods (RS 921.541)

- (v) Blood, blood products and immunobiological products for human use
 - Federal Decree of 22 March 1996 on the control of blood, blood products and transplants (RS 818.111; RO 1996 2296)
 - Federal Law of 18 December 1970 on the campaign against diseases transmissible through human beings (Law on Epidemics; RS 818.101)
 - Ordinance of 26 June 1996 on the control of blood, blood products and transplants (Ordinance on Blood Control; Rs 818.111.3)
 - Ordinance of 23 August 1989 concerning immunobiological products (RS 812.111)
 - Form "Import of blood, blood products and immunobiological products for human use"
 - Form "Declaration by the importer of blood and blood products"
- (vi) Narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors use and marketed for legal purposes
 - Federal Law on Narcotics of 3 October 1951 (LStup; RS 812.121)
 - Federal Ordinance on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 29 May 1996 (OStup; RS 812.121.1)
 - Ordinance of 29 May 1996 on precursors and other chemical substances used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (OPrec; RS 812.121.3)
 - OFSP Ordinance on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 12 December 1996 (OFSP-OStup; RS 812.121.2)
 - OFSP Ordinance of 8 November 1996 on precursors and other chemical substances used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (OFSP-OPrec; RS 812.121.5)

(vii) Ethanol

- Federal Law on Alcohol (RS 680)

III. GOODS OF VITAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE SUBJECT TO COMPULSORY HOLDING OF STOCKS

- Federal Law on National Economic Supply (LAP; RS 531)
- Ordinances on Compulsory Reserve Stocks Specific to Each Product (SR 531. 215.11, 215.12, 215.13, 215.14, 215.17, 215.25, 215.31, 215.41, 215.48)

- Related amendments (5)
- Form "Application for general import licence (PIG)"

IV. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

- (i) Implements of war
 - Federal Law on War Material (RS 514.51)
 - Ordinance on War Material (RS 514.511)
- (ii) CWC
 - Swiss Federal Law on the Controls of Goods for Civilian and Military Purposes and Specific Military Goods (RS 946.202)
 - Ordinance on dual use chemicals (RS 946.202.21)
 - Ordinance of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs (RS 946.202.211)
- (iii) Weapons, their accessories and ammunition
 - Weapons Act (RS 514.54)
 - Ordinance (RS 514. 541)
- (iv) Explosive materials and pyrotechnic devices for civilian use
 - Federal Act on Explosive Substances (RS 941.41)
 - Ordinance on Explosive Substances (RS 941.411)
- (v) Nuclear fuel, debris and waste
 - Federal Law on Atomic Energy of 23 December 1959 (RS 732.0; as at 1 January 1996)
 - Ordinance of 18 January 1984 on definitions and authorizations in the atomic energy field (RS 732.11; as at 1 January 1994)
 - Amendment of 15 November 1995
 - Federal Law on Radiation Protection of 22 March 1991 (RS 814.50)
 - Ordinance on Radiation Protection of 22 June 1994 (RS 814.501)
 - Document "Application for authorization"