

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES¹

Notification under Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures

DOMINICA

The following notification, dated 17 November 2006, has been received from the Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Outline of system

1. Dominica's import licensing system is regulated by the Supplies Control (Restricted Imports and Exports) Order, SRO No. 14 of 2003². The licensing system is administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Labour.

Purpose and coverage of licensing

2. Imports of goods which appear on the Supplies Control (Restricted Imports and Exports) Order, SRO No. 14 of 2003, commonly referred to as the negative list, are subject to licensing.

3. The system applies to goods originating from the More Developed Countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and non-CARICOM countries.

4. Import licences for items listed in Schedules I (potatoes, plastic sandals) and II (Flour, oxygen, carbon dioxide and candles) of the Order are issued automatically. The licence is intended to restrict the value and quantity of imports of all these items. A licence granted may be either general or limited to a specific person.

5. Please see responses to 1 above. The Legislation does not leave the designation of products to be subjected to administrative discretion. The licensing system is a statutory requirement. It is possible for the system to be abolished without legislative approval.

Procedures

6. For products under restriction:

I. The information is made known to the public by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Trade and Labour.

¹ See G/LIC/3, Annex, for the Questionnaire.

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

- II. The quota system no longer applies.
- III. Please see Nos. 4 and 6 (II) above. Licences are issued on request and for any quantity.
- IV. Please see 6 (II) above.
- V. Applications for licences are processed upon receipt and the licence is valid for eight weeks from the date of issue.
- VI. Not applicable.
- VII. Licence applications are considered by one administrative body.
- VIII. Not applicable.
- IX. There are no bilateral quotas or export restraint arrangements.
- X. Export permits from exporting countries are not required.
- 7. Please refer to No. 4 above. Licences are issued automatically and there is no quantitative limit on imports from a particular country.
 - (a) Application for licences must be made prior to importation.
 - (b) Licences are granted immediately on request.
 - (c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which applications for licence and/or importation may be made.
 - (d) An importer has to approach only one administrative organ in connection with an application.
- 8. There are no foreseeable circumstances in which an applicant for a licence may be refused other than failure to meet the ordinary criteria. The reasons for any refusal are given and the applicant has the right of appeal to the Tribunal.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

- 9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for licences.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

- 10. A sample application form is attached for reference.³ An importer is not required to submit documents with the application.
- 11. Upon actual importation, an importer is required to submit the approved licence to the Customs Department.
- 12. A fee of EC\$1.00 is charged per set of licence forms. Forms are sold in quadruplicate.
- 13. There is no deposit or advance payment requirement associated with the issuance of licences.

³ Available for consultation in the Secretariat (Market Access Division) (English only).

Conditions of licensing

14. A licence is valid for eight weeks from the date of issue. The validity period is not extended, however a new licence may be issued.
15. There is no penalty for the non-utilization of a licence or a portion of it.
16. Licences are not transferable between importers.
17. A licence may be absolute or conditional.

Other procedural requirements

18. There are no other administrative procedures apart from import licensing required prior to importation.
 19. Foreign exchange is automatically provided by the banking authorities for goods to be imported.
-