

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/LIC/N/3/JAM/1
10 June 1998

(98-2358)

Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES¹

Notification under Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures

JAMAICA

The following notification, dated 29 May 1998, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Jamaica.

Outline of system

1. Jamaica operates a single open general import licensing system.

Purpose and coverage of licensing

2. The import licensing system covers 39 products. The list of products is at Annex 1.
3. The system covers all countries trading with Jamaica.
4. It is not intended to restrict the quantity or value of imports. The system is an administrative mechanism intended for monitoring the import of products which could affect the environment, health and security of Jamaica. While an alternative has not been considered in recent years, the list of designated products is reviewed periodically with the objective of removing items where justifiable.
5. The import licensing system falls under the Trade Act of 1955, Section 11. Licensing is statutorily required. Designation of products is not left to administrative discretion, and the system cannot be abolished without legislative approval.

Procedures

6. I. Jamaica does not apply quota restrictions. Information on the licensing system, in booklet form, is published by the Trade Board outlining the supporting documentation to accompany licence applications. The information is distributed by the Trade Board and through Jamaica's Embassies/Missions overseas. Any changes in procedure are published in the newspapers.

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

II-IV. Not applicable.

V. Minimum - one day (without impediments).
Maximum - five days (where documentation is incomplete and referrals to other Ministries are required).

VI. Once the licence is granted, goods may be imported immediately.

VII. Licence applications are primarily considered by the Trade Board. In certain cases, the recommendation of other government Ministries/Agencies, such as the Ministry of National Security and the Bureau of Standards, is sought.

VIII-X. Not applicable.

XI. No.

7. (a) No time period is stipulated. The licence should be obtained before the product is imported.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) See reply 6.VII.

8. There are no other circumstances other than failure to meet statutory requirements. The reasons for refusal are given to the applicant who has the right to appeal by means of a letter to the Trade Administrator presenting any new information. In certain cases, a special committee reviews the case.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for licences under a non-restrictive system. However, for importation of motor vehicles dealers must be certified. A registration fee is required. A list of certified dealers is available.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Applications bear the name and address of the importer, individual/company, description of goods, quantity and CIF value, and pro forma invoice or proof of ownership bearing the name of the individual or company. Individuals importing items are also required to submit proof of identity with the application. A sample form is at Annex II². The form for firms is similar to that for individuals.

11. Importers of licensable items must obtain the import licence before actual importation. Upon importation all importers must submit to the Customs Authorities the original import licence, ownership documents or receipts for items purchased along with necessary shipping documents required by Customs.

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

12. Yes, there are administrative charges (fees). A receipting fee is required on submission of all applications and a processing fee to a maximum of J\$776.00 is paid at the point of delivery.

13. There are no deposits or advance payments required.

Conditions of licensing

14. Licences are valid for the duration of the financial year - April of one year to March of the next year, or, in certain cases, for six months. Validity can be extended by written request.

15-16. No.

17. Not applicable.

Other procedural requirements

18. Not applicable.

19. Jamaica's foreign exchange system has been fully liberalized. A licence is not required as a condition for obtaining foreign exchange.

ANNEX

List of items requiring an import licence

<u>Heading No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Chapter 4</u>	Milk and cream, concentrated or containing added sugar or other sweetening matter (only those heading Nos. listed below)
040210	In powder, granules or other solid forms, of a fat content (not exceeding 1.5 per cent)
040220	In powder, granules or other solid forms, of a fat content (exceeding 1.5 per cent)
<u>Chapter 12</u>	
12.11	Plants and parts of plants (incl. seeds and fruits), of a kind used only in perfumery, in pharmacy or for insecticidal, fungicidal or similar purposes, fresh or dried, whether or not cut, crushed or powdered (only those heading Nos. listed below)
1211009	Other plant parts for perfume and pharmaceutical purposes e.g. cannabis and cocoa leaf
<u>Chapter 13</u>	
13.01	Lac; natural gums, resins, gum-resins and balsam (only those heading Nos. listed below)
1301001	Cannabis resin
13.02	Vegetable saps and extracts; pectic substances, pectinates and pectates; agar-agar and other mucilages and thickeners, whether or not modified, derived from vegetable products (only the heading Nos. listed below)
130210	Vegetable saps and extracts e.g. agar-agar, concentrate of poppy straw, extracts and tinctures of cannabis and opium
<u>Chapter 28</u>	
28.04	Hydrogen, rare gases and other non-metals (only those heading Nos. listed below)
280410	Hydrogen
280420	Rare gases
28.07	Sulphuric acid; oleum (only those heading Nos. listed below)
2807001	Sulphuric acid, for chemical analysis

<u>Heading No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
2807002	Sulphuric acid, other
2807003	Oleum
<u>Chapter 36</u>	
360100	Propellant powders
360200	Prepared explosives other than propellant powders
360300	Safety fuses; detonating fuses; percussion or detonating caps; igniters; electric detonators
3604	Fireworks, signalling flares, rain rockets, fog signals and other pyrotechnic articles (only those heading Nos. listed below)
360410	Fireworks
3604909	Other
<u>Chapter 87</u>	
87.02	Public-transport type passenger motor vehicles (all heading Nos.)
87.03	Motor cars and other motor vehicles incl. station wagon and racing cars (all heading Nos.)
87.04	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods (excluding pick-ups and trucks over 3 tons; all heading Nos.)
870600	Chassis fitted with engines (for motor vehicles of heading Nos. 87.02 to 87.05)
8706009	Other chassis fitted with engines
8707	Bodies (incl. cabs) for the motor vehicles of heading nos. 87.02-87.04 (excl. cabs for p/ups)
8707001	Bus bodies
8707009	Other bodies
871000	Tank and other armoured fighting vehicles
8711	Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) and cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with or without side-cars; side-cars (only those heading Nos. listed below)
871140	600cc-800cc
871150	Over 800cc

<u>Heading No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
871190	Other motor/auto cycles and side car (600cc and over)
87.14	Parts and accessories of vehicles of heading No. 87.11
871410	Parts and accessories (for heading No. 8711)
<u>Chapter 89</u>	
8906	Other vessels, incl. warships and lifeboats other than rowing boats (only those heading Nos. listed below)
8906001	Vessels exceeding 708 cubic metres (warships only)
8906009	Other
<u>Chapter 93</u>	
930100	Military weapons, other than revolvers, pistols and the arms of heading No. 93.07.00
930200	Revolvers and pistols other than those of heading Nos. 93.03 or 93.04.00
9303	Other firearms and similar devices which operate by the firing of an explosive charge (only those heading Nos. listed below)
9303001	Light pistols and other devices e.g. flares, etc.
9303009	Other
930400	Other arms (rifle, air/spring guns, pistol, etc. incl. those of heading No. 93.07.00)
930500	Parts and accessories of articles in 93.01-93.04
93.06	Bombs, grenades, torpedoes, mines, missiles, and similar munitions of war and parts thereof; cartridges and other ammunition and projectiles and parts thereof, incl. shot and cartridge wads (only those heading Nos. listed below)
9306002	Ammo/parts target shooting
9306009	Ammunition of war and parts thereof
930700	Swords, cutlasses, bayonets, lances and similar arms and parts thereof and scabbards and sheaths therefor

<u>Heading No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Chapter 95</u>	
95.03	Other toys; reduced-size ("scale") models and similar recreational models, working or not; puzzles of all kinds (only the heading No. listed below)
950390	Other (toy guns for recreation incl. water pistols)
95.04	Articles for funfair, table or parlour games, incl. pintables, billiards, special tables for casino games and automatic bowling alley equipment (only those heading Nos. listed below)
950410	Video games of a kind used with television receiver
950430	Other games, coin or disc-operated amusement machine, other than bowling alley equipment
