

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

Notification under Article 7.3 of the
Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures

MALAWI

The following notification, dated 10 May 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Malawi.

Outline of the system

1. The import licensing system is regulated by the Control of Goods Act (Import and Export) regulations.

Purpose and coverage of licensing

2. The following products are subject to automatic import licensing:

- eggs of poultry;
- live poultry;
- compound products containing flour, meal residues and other preparations of any kind suitable for use as animal foodstuffs;
- meat; and
- kitchen and table salt.

The following products are subject to non-automatic licensing:

- clothing and uniforms, designed for military, naval, air force or police use;
- radioactive substances;
- mist nets for the capture of wild birds;
- wild animals, wild trophies and wild animal products;
- live fish;
- dieldrin; and
- aldrin.

3. The systems apply to goods originating from all countries.

4. There are no quantitative restrictions on either system. The objective of the licensing is outlined below:

Product(s)	Objective of licensing
Eggs of poultry Live poultry Compound products containing flour, meal residues and other preparations of any kind for use as animal food-stuffs Meat and meat products Kitchen and table salt	Public health
Military uniforms	Security
Radioactive substances Mist nets for the capture of wild birds Wild animals, wild trophies Live fish Dieldrin Aldrin	Environmental protection

5. The licensing system is a statutory requirement for reasons of public health, security and environment.

Procedures

6. Malawi does not maintain a quota system on imports.

7.(a)(b) Upon fulfilment of other statutory requirements, licences are issued on the spot.

(c) Licences can be applied for throughout the year.

(d) The importer has to approach one administrative organ.

8. An applicant is informed of reasons for refusal, and he has the right to appeal.

Eligibility of importers to apply for a licence

9. Persons, firms and institutions that fulfil the statutory requirements pertaining to the importation of a specific product can import.

Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence

10. The documents vary depending on the type of product. However, the following information must be provided by the importer:

- name of applicant;
- product to be imported;
- specifications of product; and
- pro forma invoice.

11. The import licence serves as an authority allowing an importer to import. Where an import licence gives conditions pertaining to health, an appropriate health certificate is also needed upon importation.

12. There is no administrative fee upon the issuing of a licence.

13. There is no requirement for any deposit or advance payment associated with the issuing of a licence.

Conditions of licensing

14. An import licence is valid for six months and the validity can be extended.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilization of a licence or a portion of a licence.

16. Licences are not transferable.

17. Where applicable, other administrative procedures may entail health certificates in the case of food products and the management of the products in the case where there are environmental concerns.

18. Other than import licensing, Malawi does not maintain other administrative procedures upon importation.

19. The foreign exchange regime is liberalized such that no licence is required as a condition to obtain foreign exchange.
