

**REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES<sup>1</sup>**

Notification under Article 7.3 of the  
Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures

MALAWI

The following notification, dated 25 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Malawi.

**Outline of the system**

1. The import licensing system is regulated by the Control of Goods Act, Chapter 18.08 of the Laws of Malawi. The licensing system is administered by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

**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;
- Kitchen and table salt.
- Portland ordinary cement;
- Cane sugar;
- Wheat Flour;
- Matches.

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;

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

- Aldrin; and
  - Fertilizers.
3. The system applies to goods originating in and coming 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eggs of poultry;</li> <li>- Live poultry;</li> <li>- Compound products containing flour, meal residues and other preparations of any kind for use as animal food-stuffs;</li> <li>- Meat and meat products; and</li> <li>- Kitchen and table salt</li> <li>- Dieldrin; and</li> <li>- Aldrin</li> </ul>	Public health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Portland ordinary cement;</li> <li>- Cane sugar;</li> <li>- Wheat</li> </ul>	Protection of infant industry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Military uniforms</li> </ul>	Security
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Radioactive substances;</li> <li>- Mist nets for the capture of wild birds;</li> <li>- Wild animals, wild trophies;</li> <li>- Live fish.</li> </ul>	Environmental protection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Matches;</li> <li>- Fertilizer.</li> </ul>	Quality and Standards

5. The licensing system is a statutory requirement, maintained under the Control of Goods Act, Chapter 18.08 of the Laws of Malawi, for reasons of public health, security and environment as well as quality and standard measures.

### **Procedures**

6. Malawi does not maintain a quota system on imports.
- 7.(a) Upon fulfilment of other statutory requirements, licences are issued on the spot;
- (b) As 7 above;
- (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 apply for Import Licence.

**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 that is required to obtain the license.

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 (6) months and the validity can be extended for another six months with satisfactory reasons.

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.

**Other procedural requirements**

18. Other than import licensing, Malawi does not maintain other administrative procedures prior to importation. However, Malawi Bureau of Standards' requirement for quality, standards, and health has to be fulfilled.

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

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