

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

Notification under Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The following notification, dated 10 September 2012, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad and Tobago's import licensing regime, as notified in document G/LIC/N/3/TTO/9, has not been modified and still remains valid for 2011 and 2012, except for the change introduced with regard to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures responses to Question 6 ( I-XI) as provided below:

**Procedures**

6. The answers provided to question 6 (I-XI), relate exclusively to Methyl Bromide, which Trinidad and Tobago has under import quota restriction and expects to phase out by 2015.
- I. Information is not published with respect to the allocation of quotas. Letters are sent to the importers of methyl bromide. Methyl bromide is also on the import negative list (which is published and indicates that a licence is needed for importation of the product). No quantities are published.
- II. The quota is on an annual basis and in line with the phase out schedule of the Montreal Protocol. The quota was determined through surveys with the importers which were used to establish a national baseline and quota allocations. Licences are issued annually. The quota holders are informed annually in writing by the National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources.
- III. The Ministry of Finance (Customs and Excise Division) and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment monitor licences issued to ensure that those allocated are actually used for imports. Licences are issued for ozone-depleting substances (ODS) under the Montreal Protocol and controlled by the import negative list. Unused allocations are not added to quotas for a succeeding period. The names of importers to whom licences have been allocated are made known to governments and export promotion bodies of exporting countries upon request.

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

- IV. The quota is for the calendar year. Applications for licences may be submitted at any time during that period. Licences expire at the end of the calendar year.
  - V. The minimum and maximum lengths of time for processing applications are 1-2 days.
  - VI. Once licences have been granted, there are no restrictions regarding the time for importation provided that importing is done during the calendar year.
  - VII. Consideration of license applications is effected by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment (Trade Licensing Unit) which has responsibility for the issuance of licenses. However, the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (National Ozone Unit) endorses the requests for a licence. An importer has to approach only one administrative body with an application.
  - VIII. With respect to the demand for licences, the importers of methyl bromide were previously determined. There is a maximum amount to be allocated per applicant based on the quota. No provision is made for new importers of methyl bromide given that the product is currently being phased out. Applications are examined on receipt.
  - IX. Not applicable.
  - X. Not applicable.
  - XI. Licences are issued for quarantine and reshipment purposes only.
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