

**TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM<sup>1</sup>**

Communication from China

The following communication, dated 17 October 2008, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the People's Republic of China.

Information required by Annex 1A of the Protocol on the Accession of China

**IV. POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN GOODS**

**3. Import licensing**

- (a) implementation of the provisions of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures and the WTO Agreement applying the measures set out in Section 8 of the Protocol including provision of the time taken to grant an import licence**

China has honoured all the accession commitments since accession into the WTO 7 years ago. The present import licensing procedures maintained by China, i.e. import license administration, automatic import licensing and tariff rate quota administration, are consistent with WTO rules.

Since the last transitional review in 2007, no major change has occurred to the import licensing regime of China. On 29 September and 24 December 2007, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the General Administration of Customs (GAC) jointly promulgated the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Automatic Import Licensing of 2008 and the Catalogue of Goods subject to Import License Administration of 2008, in MOFCOM and GAC Joint Announcement No.115 and No.100 of 2007. These two catalogues list all the products subject to import licensing procedures except for those under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) administration.

As for commodities under TRQ administration, there has been no change to the administration methods since last year.

Hereinbefore, the context gives a brief description of import licensing procedures of China in 2008. All the administrative rules mentioned above can be found in China Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Gazette and can also be obtained at the website of MOFCOM ([www.mofcom.gov.cn](http://www.mofcom.gov.cn)). In addition to reply to the annual questionnaire pursuant to Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, we will update the information relating to laws and regulations about China's import licensing procedures pursuant notification obligations under the Agreement, should there be any.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Paragraph 18 of the Protocol on the Accession of the People's Republic of China (WT/L/432).