

**REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR OVERSEAS SUPPLIERS
OF SCRAP AND WASTE MATERIAL**

Question from the UNITED STATES to CHINA¹

The following communication, dated 19 July 2005, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the United States.

In December 2003, China's AQSIQ (Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine) issued a notice requiring registration of all overseas scrap and waste material suppliers by 1 July 2004, and later extended the deadline to 1 August. Although detailed registration and qualification rules were not issued until May 2004, those companies that missed the application deadline were forbidden from importing scrap and waste material into China.

Our information indicates that China did approve approximately 87 per cent of the total applications received, and it announced that companies not receiving approval would be allowed to reapply in six months. To date, however, China has not formally reopened the registration process. These rules could be viewed as a *de facto* import licensing requirement, which, as it stands now, restricts new suppliers from accessing China's market.

- When will China formally reopen the registration process for scrap and waste material?

¹ See Understanding on Procedures for the Review of Notifications (G/LIC/4).