

**TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM  
PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 18 OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE ACCESSION  
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

Responses from CHINA to Questions from AUSTRALIA<sup>1</sup>

The following communication, dated 4 April 2007, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the People's Republic of China.

Replies to Questions from Australia on Automatic Import Licensing Procedures

1. *Can China advise when it will notify the organizations, including those organizations delegated such authority by the national authorities, that are responsible for authorizing or approving imports of iron ore, whether through grant of licence or other approval?*

The automatic import licensing is implemented in accordance with the provision of the *Measures of Administration of Automatic Import Licensing for Goods* (referred to as "*the Measures*"). The relevant government organizations responsible for issuing the licence are listed in Annex 2 of *the Measures*. The *Measures* sets no approval requirement for enterprises applying for automatic import licence.

2. *Can China advise when it will notify the procedures and criteria for obtaining import licences or other approvals for iron ore?*

The procedures for obtaining import licences are contained in the *Measures*. The *Measures* sets no qualification criteria for enterprises applying for automatic import licence.

3. *Is China able to advise when the 2005 QR notification will be available?*

It is currently available in the Market Access committee.

4. *Is China able to advise when the 2006 QR notification will be available?*

The 2006 QR notification will be prepared on the basis of the 2005 QR notification. China is about to notify a supplement document.

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<sup>1</sup> See document G/LIC/Q/CHN/19.

5. *Can China advise whether temporary prohibitions and quantitative restrictions have been used for products subject to automatic import licensing? If so, can China advise which products subject to automatic import licensing were affected and why the temporary prohibition or quantitative restrictions were put in place?*

Regarding the MOFCOM and GCA Decree 26, the temporary measures taken to cease automatic import licensing refer to the measures carried out by the government to implement the decision by international organization, such as UN solution, or SPS emergency measures, such as mad cow disease.

6. *Can China advise the purpose of requiring reasons for an automatic licence's lack of use and advise if there are any consequences if a licence holder does not use their automatic import licence?*

It serves the purposes of both data collecting and correcting and fighting against criminal conduct, such as the forgery of automatic import licence for the bulk import. The licence holder should return the licence to the relevant government agencies responsible for issuing the licence when it is not used and this licence will be cancelled.

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