

IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM OF CHINA

Replies from CHINA to Questions by AUSTRALIA¹

The following communication, dated 31 October 2008, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the People's Republic of China.

China adopts automatic import licensing on iron ore consistent with WTO rules. Automatic import licensing is in place for statistics purposes.

On 1 March, 2005, China adopted automatic import licensing on iron. Pursuant to *the Measures on Administration on Automatic Import Licensing of Goods*, importers should apply for automatic import licenses to the Ministry of Commerce. For application of automatic import license by importers consistent with domestic laws and regulations (such as content and format), China does not exercise any other restrictions.

Qualification requirements by industrial associations are self-disciplinary rules for enterprises registered with the industrial associations. MOFCOM does not have any qualification requirements on iron ore importers.

¹ Questions from Australia are contained in document G/LIC/Q/CHN/22.