

IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM OF INDONESIA

Questions from THAILAND to INDONESIA

The following communication, dated 22 October 2008, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Thailand.

The Government of Thailand have just received reports from both our local industries and Indonesian sugar importers that the Indonesia sugar importers are facing difficulty from the new import licensing regime of the government of Indonesia regarding sugar.

As Thailand is one of sugar exporters to Indonesia. We also have similar questions to Indonesia as posed by the United States in document G/LIC/Q/IDN/9. We therefore are of great interest to hear the response of Indonesia to these questions.

In addition to the questions posed by the United States, Thailand would also like to ask additional questions and seek information as follows:

Such regime involves several measures, including a quantitative restriction of imported sugar in the form of a quota and special import licence, with the intention to restrict importation of sugar into Indonesia and then to promote the sugar self-sufficiency in Indonesia. Therefore, the importers continue to face difficulties in obtaining the import licence for sugar.

- Can Indonesia confirm that the import licensing regime for sugar involves such above-mentioned measures?
- Is the import licensing system for sugar automatic or non-automatic?
- What specific criteria does Indonesia use for allocation of import licensing for sugar?
- What is the maximum length of time and how long does it normally take to process an application for a licence to import sugar?
- Please provide any law or regulation concerning the import licensing procedures for importation of sugar into Indonesia?