

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/LIC/Q/NOR/1

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(97-0187)

Committee on Import Licensing

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NOTIFICATION OF REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLE 7.3 OF THE AGREEMENT¹

Reply of NORWAY to Questions from the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES²

The following communication, dated 8 July 1996, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Norway.

Question

How does Norway ensure that sufficient publicity is given to the rules and all information concerning procedures for the submission of applications? In particular, what are the "relevant trade organizations" to which the information is submitted and how can a new importer obtain relevant information "when needed"?

Reply

(Ref. G/LIC/N/3/NOR/1, II.6.I). Information regarding quotas is submitted to the relevant Norwegian trade organizations. The formalities for the filling in of applications for licences are laid down in the general provisions concerning import regulation. These are published in a bulletin which is regularly distributed to all importers.

Information is also given orally upon request, followed up by written information when needed. In addition importers are informed through an information sheet (in Norwegian) which is distributed annually from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Question

How are the quotas on shoes originating in Taiwan allocated?

Reply

(Ref. G/LIC/N/3/NOR/1, II.2-3). Imports of a few categories of shoes, such as protective footwear and ski boots, are prohibited; all other categories are subject to import licence for surveillance purposes only.

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¹G/LIC/N/3/NOR/1.

²See Understanding reached by the Committee on Import Licensing (G/LIC/M/4, paragraphs 5, 6, 9 and 10).

Question

How are quotas allocated in case of over-subscription, even under the double-checking system "This problem should not arise"? How would a quantitative restriction resulting from a safeguard measure be managed?

Reply

(Ref. G/LIC/N/3/NOR/1, II.6.VIII). Under the present regime this problem should not arise as restrictions are based on export licensing. Norway maintains import licensing for control purposes only.