

**NOTIFICATION OF REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING
PROCEDURES FROM THE UNITED STATES¹**

Questions from CANADA to the UNITED STATES²

The following communication, dated 16 April 2008, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Canada.

Questions from Canada on the United States' Import Licensing Procedures on G/LIC/N/3/USA/5

The United States administers an import permit programme which restricts the importation of controlled substances and listed chemicals to the quantity which the United States consider necessary to meet the medical, scientific or other legitimate needs of the country, and to monitor the handlers of such substances. The United States also notes that this system is necessary to meet its obligations related to the 1961 UN Single Convention Treaty on Narcotic Drugs, the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the 1988 UN Convention Against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

But for opium, poppy straw, concentrate of poppy straw or coca leaf, No. Schedule I or II substance, or narcotic substance in Schedule III, IV or V may be imported unless the Attorney General finds (a) an emergency exists in which domestic supplies are inadequate; (b) competition among domestic manufacturers is inadequate and will not be rendered adequate by the registration of additional manufacturers; or (c) in any case in which the Attorney General finds that such controlled substance is in limited quantities exclusively for scientific, analytical or research uses. The United States the System is designed to restrict the quantity of imports of controlled substances and listed chemicals and to maintain a monitoring system.

Questions:

Can the United States explain why it is necessary that the needs of the United States in controlled substances must first be met by domestic manufacturers prior allowing imported products to meet demand?

Has the United States ever allowed or considered allowing those who are responsible for supplying the United States market to chose whether foreign or domestic manufacturers may contribute to fulfilling the quotas for the United States market? If not, why not?

¹ See document G/LIC/3, Annex, for the Questionnaire.

² (G/LIC/4).