

**VENEZUELA'S NON-AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES**

Questions from MEXICO to VENEZUELA<sup>1</sup>

The following communication, dated 24 April 2009, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

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Mexico is aware of the existence in Venezuela of a resolution which authorizes the issuance of "Certificates of Insufficiency" or "Certificates of No National Production" which are required for the importation of a number of products.

1. What, exactly, are these certificates? Is this an administrative procedure as described in Article 1.1 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures? What is the justification for this requirement?
  2. What criteria are used to determine the products whose importation is subject to these certificates?
  3. What information is required in applying for these certificates? What specific criteria does Venezuela use in approving or rejecting applications for these certificates?
  4. Which authority issues the certificates and what is the normal processing time? If the application is rejected, is it possible to challenge the decision? If so, what is the challenge procedure?
  5. Has the introduction of these "Certificates of Insufficiency" or "Certificates of No National Production" already been notified to the WTO Committee?
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<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 1.16 of document G/LIC/M/13 dated 14 June 2001.