



26 May 2020

(20-3821)

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Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

**AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES**

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 5.1 TO 5.4 OF THE AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup>**

HONG KONG, CHINA

The following notification dated 19 May 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Hong Kong, China.

	Category	Notification details
1	Notifying Member	Hong Kong, China
2	Title of new legislation/procedure	Introduction of an online platform for licence application, a new application form and a new licence format for import licences for frozen/chilled meat or poultry
3	Date of Publication	30/03/2020
4	Date of entry into force	30/03/2020
5	Website link/Official publication of the new regulation/procedure	<a href="https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/press/20200330_7883.html">https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/press/20200330_7883.html</a>
6	Have you attached a copy of the regulation (PDF) to the Secretariat	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. (Please attach a copy of the regulation to the notification.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.
7	Type of notification	<input type="checkbox"/> (a) New licensing regulation/procedure <sup>2</sup> ; (please answer question 8 to 14) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) Changes to a regulation/procedure which has been previously notified in document: G/LIC/N/3/HKG/23; (please answer question 15 and 16)
8	List of products subject to licensing	Please provide the HS codes and detailed descriptions of the products. In case of a long list, please attach the list as an Annex in MS WORD document.
9	Nature of licensing	Automatic: <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Automatic: <input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> It is understood that the notifying Member has also completed its notification obligations under Article 1.4(a) and Article 8.2(b) regarding the relevant law/regulation/procedure notified for by filling this form in a full and complete manner.

<sup>2</sup> "New licensing regulation/procedure" is understood to refer to any newly introduced law, regulation or procedure, and those which are in force but being notified for the first time to the Committee.

	Category	Notification details
10	<b>Administrative purpose/measure being implemented</b>	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Protect public morals; (b) <input type="checkbox"/> Protect human, animal or plant life and health; protect environment; (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Collect trade statistics or market surveillance; (d) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights, and the prevention of deceptive practices; (e) <input type="checkbox"/> Pursue obligations under the UN Charter and other international treaties ( <i>i.e. CITES, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, UNSC Resolutions etc.</i> ) (f) <input type="checkbox"/> Quota (including TRQ) administration; (g) <input type="checkbox"/> Regulate imports of arms, ammunition or fissionable materials and safeguard national security; (h) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ ( <i>please specify</i> )
11	<b>Administrative body(ies) for submission of applications</b>	Ministry/authority and Department: [ ] Address: [ ] Website: [ ] Telephone: [ ] E-Mail: [ ]
12	<b>Contact point for information on eligibility</b>	Ministry/authority and Department: [ ] Address: [ ] Website: [ ] Telephone: [ ] E-Mail: [ ]
13	<b>Expected duration of licensing procedure</b>	
14	<b>A summary of the notification in one of the WTO official languages</b>	
15	<b>In the case of 7(b), please indicate the type of new change(s)</b>	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Termination</b> (b) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Suspension</b> (c) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Modification of specific details in existing procedures:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Product coverage; <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative purpose; <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic or Non-automatic; <input type="checkbox"/> Duration of licensing; <input type="checkbox"/> Change the nature of quantity/value restriction; <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility of applicants; <input type="checkbox"/> Contact information on eligibility; <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative body(ies) for submission of application; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentation requirements (including application form); <input type="checkbox"/> Period for Application; <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative body(ies) to issue licence; <input type="checkbox"/> Processing time for issuing licence; <input type="checkbox"/> Licence fee/administrative charge; <input type="checkbox"/> Deposit/advance payment and relevant conditions;

	Category	Notification details
		<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal regulations/procedures; <input type="checkbox"/> Validity of licence; <input type="checkbox"/> Other conditions of licence (extension, transferability, penalty of non-use etc.); <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign exchange requirements; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Introducing an online platform for licence application, a new application form and a new import licence format.
16	<b>Please elaborate the changes in detail (in one of the WTO official languages)</b>	<p>The Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (CFS) rolled out the online application for import licence for frozen/chilled meat or poultry on 30 March 2020. Relevant importers may choose to submit applications for import licences to CFS through the online platform round-the-clock. The turnaround time for processing and issuing import licences through the online platform may be as short as several hours, and in any case, will be less than one clear working day.</p> <p>Besides, the Import Licence Form 3 (TRA 187) has been replaced by a simpler new application form (FEHB 284), and the format of the import licence has also been updated. Samples of FEHB 284 and the new import licence are available at:  <a href="https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/public/public_fi/files/fehb284.pdf">https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/public/public_fi/files/fehb284.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.ftp.cfs.gov.hk/fiecs_web/images/il_sample.pdf">https://www.ftp.cfs.gov.hk/fiecs_web/images/il_sample.pdf</a></p> <p>After the rollout of the new online application service, the paper mode application is maintained. Importers may continue to submit applications for import licences in paper form having regard to their operational needs, with the use of the new application forms. The issue of import licence under paper mode application requires one clear working day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, dates of submission and issue) as is currently the case.</p>