

24 August 2021

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## **Committee on Import Licensing**

## **AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES**

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

**TONGA** 

The following notification dated 16 August 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Tonga.

## 1 PLANT QUARANTINE ACT [CAP.19.06]

|   | Category  | Notification details   |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Notifying Member  | Tonga  |
| 2 | Title of new legislation/<br>procedure                                    | Plant Quarantine Act [CAP.19.06]   |
| 3 | Date of Publication   | 31 August 1982   |
| 4 | Date of entry into force  | 31 August 1982   |
| 5 | Website link/Official publication of the new regulation/procedure         | Plant Quarantine Act (ago.gov.to)  |
| 6 | Have you attached a copy of<br>the regulation (PDF) to the<br>Secretariat | [ ] Yes. (Please attach a copy of the regulation to the notification.)  [x] No.  |
| 7 | Type of notification  | <ul> <li>[x] (a) New licensing regulation/procedure<sup>2</sup>; (please answer question 8 to 14)</li> <li>[ ] (b) Changes to a regulation/procedure which has been previously notified in document; (please answer question 15 and 16)</li> </ul> |
| 8 | List of products subject to licensing                                     | - Plant - Plant material - Plant pest - Soil - Living culture and other organisms - Noxious weeds - Garbage - Insects  |
| 9 | Nature of licensing   | Automatic: [ ]  Non-Automatic: [x]   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

2 "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 | Administrative   | (a) Protect public morals;   |
|    | purpose/measure being implemented                                  | (b) Protect human, animal or plant life and health; protect environment;   |
|    |  | (c)  Collect trade statistics or market surveillance;  |
|    |  | (d) Protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights, and the prevention of deceptive practices;   |
|    |  | (e) Pursue obligations under the UN Charter and other international treaties (i.e. CITES, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, UNSC Resolutions etc.)   |
|    |  | (f) Quota (including TRQ) administration;  |
|    |  | (g) Regulate imports of arms, ammunition or fissionable materials and safeguard national security;   |
|    |  | (h) Other: (please specify)  |
| 11 | Administrative body(ies) for submission of applications            | Ministry/authority and Department: Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forest and Fisheries/Quarantine Division Address: Ma'ufanga Website: <a href="www.mafff.gov.to">www.mafff.gov.to</a> Telephone: (+676) 7401112 E-Mail: <a href="ceo@mafff.gov.to">ceo@mafff.gov.to</a> |
| 12 | Contact point for information on eligibility                       | Ministry/authority and Department: Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forest and Fisheries/Quarantine Division Address: Ma'ufanga Website: http://mafff.we.bs/ Telephone: (+676) 7401111/7401115 E-Mail: siutonit@gmail.com  |
| 13 | Expected duration of licensing procedure                           | Ongoing  |
| 14 | A summary of the notification in one of the WTO official languages | This Act revises the law relating to the quarantine of plants.   |
| 15 | In the case of 7(b), please  | (a)   Termination  |
|    | indicate the type of new   | (b)   Suspension   |
|    | change(s)  | (c) Modification of specific details in existing procedures:   |
|    |  | ☐ Product coverage;  |
|    |  | Administrative purpose;  |
|    |  | Automatic or Non-automatic;  |
|    |  | ☐ Duration of licensing;   |
|    |  | Change the nature of quantity/value restriction;   |
|    |  | ☐ Eligibility of applicants;   |
|    |  | Contact information on eligibility;  |
|    |  | Administrative body(ies) for submission of application;  |
|    |  | <ul><li>☐ Documentation requirements (including application form);</li><li>☐ Period for Application;</li></ul>   |
|    |  |  |
|    |  | ☐ Administrative body(ies) to issue licence; ☐ Processing time for issuing licence;  |
|    |  | Licence fee/administrative charge;   |
|    |  | Deposit/advance payment and relevant conditions;   |
|    |  | Appeal regulations/procedures;   |
|    |  | ☐ Validity of licence;   |
|    |  | Other conditions of licence (extension, transferability, penalty of non-use etc.);   |
|    |  | Foreign exchange requirements;   |
|    |  | Other: (please specify).   |

|    | Category  | Notification details |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 16 | Please elaborate the changes in detail (in one of the WTO official languages) |                      |

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