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Committee on Import Licensing

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**REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON
IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES¹**

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7.3 OF THE AGREEMENT
ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES (2019)**

SWITZERLAND - LIECHTENSTEIN

The following communication, dated 25 September 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Switzerland.

In general terms, the import licensing regimes of Switzerland and Liechtenstein presented in this notification have not changed since last year. The only exception relates to the import permit for ethanol, described in Chapter 8 of the previous notification (G/LIC/N/3/CHE/14), which was eliminated on 1 January 2019 (see G/LIC/N/2/CHE/3).

To provide additional information and for ease of reference, Switzerland has modified the format used for last year's notification (G/LIC/N/3/CHE/14) in the following ways:

- Previously, Chapter 1 (on agricultural products) covered automatic and non-automatic licensing. These are now presented separately under two different headings: (1) automatic licencing (general import permit, GIP) and (2) non-automatic licencing (allocation of tariff quotas).
- In several chapters, Swiss customs tariff numbers have been added to the sections dealing with the coverage of licensing regimes.
- The present notification also contains information on licensing procedures for:
 - 4.3 Imported marine fishery products;
 - 13 Radioactive materials;
 - 15 Transboundary movements of wastes (Basel Convention);
- Several clarifications and minor additions have been made in all chapters.

Because there is a customs union between Switzerland and Liechtenstein, this notification should be taken to cover Liechtenstein. Switzerland and Liechtenstein will, at a later date, submit a joint notification with information on their import licensing regimes.

Switzerland and Liechtenstein confirm that this notification should also be taken as the outcome of the review requested by the Committee on Import Licensing of their profiles on the new website.

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

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1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS - GENERAL IMPORT PERMIT (GIP)

Outline of system

1. The general import permit (GIP), granted automatically, free of charge and for an indefinite duration, is used for statistical purposes and tariff quota (TQ) management. Persons liable to customs controls must state their GIP number on their customs declaration. The GIP is issued by the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/fr/home/markt/einfuhr-von-agrarprodukten.html> and <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/fr/home.html> -> "Protection des plantes").

A GIP is also required for the importation of agricultural products subject to compulsory stockpiling. In such cases, it is issued by *Rèserve suisse* (see Chapter 9.1).

The Swiss working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>) indicates in the comments for each tariff number whether a licence is required or not. If one is needed, the name of the competent authority from which the importer may request further information is also given.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The goods for which a GIP is required, including agricultural goods subject to compulsory stockpiling (see Chapter 9.1), are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr; RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). Goods for which GIPs are issued by OFAG are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0101.29	0204.42	0210.12	0703.10	0809.10	1602.49
0102.21	0204.43	0210.19	0703.90	0809.21	1602.50
0102.29	0204.50	0210.20	0704.10	0809.29	1602.90
0102.31	0205.00	0210.99	0704.20	0809.40	2001.90
0102.39	0206.10	0401.10	0704.90	0810.10	2004.10
0102.90	0206.21	0401.20	0705.11	0810.20	2004.90
0103.10	0206.22	0401.40	0705.19	0810.30	2005.20
0103.91	0206.29	0401.50	0705.21	1001.11	2005.99
0103.92	0206.30	0402.10	0705.29	1001.91	2009.61
0104.10	0206.41	0402.21	0706.10	1002.10	2009.69
0104.20	0206.49	0402.29	0706.90	1003.10	2009.71
0105.11	0206.80	0402.91	0707.00	1003.90	2009.79
0105.12	0206.90	0402.99	0708.10	1004.10	2009.89
0105.94	0207.11	0403.10	0708.20	1004.90	2009.90
0201.10	0207.12	0403.90	0708.90	1005.10	2202.99
0201.20	0207.13	0404.10	0709.20	1005.90	2204.21
0201.30	0207.14	0404.90	0709.30	1008.60	2204.22
0202.10	0207.24	0405.10	0709.40	1105.10	2204.29
0202.20	0207.25	0405.20	0709.70	1105.20	2206.00
0202.30	0207.26	0405.90	0709.91	1201.10	3501.10
0203.11	0207.27	0511.10	0709.99	1205.10	3808.52
0203.12	0207.41	0511.99	0710.10	1205.90	3808.59
0203.19	0207.42	0602.20	0710.21	1207.21	3808.61
0203.21	0207.44	0603.11	0710.22	1209.10	3808.62
0203.22	0207.45	0603.12	0710.30	1209.29	3808.69
0203.29	0207.51	0603.13	0710.80	1601.00	3808.91
0204.10	0207.52	0603.14	0710.90	1602.20	3808.92
0204.21	0207.54	0603.15	0712.90	1602.31	3808.93
0204.22	0207.55	0603.19	0806.10	1602.32	3808.99
0204.23	0207.60	0701.10	0808.10	1602.39	
0204.30	0209.10	0701.90	0808.30	1602.41	
0204.41	0210.11	0702.00	0808.40	1602.42	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. Automatic licensing allows for the statistical monitoring of imports.

5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr; RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html#a24>) and Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr; RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>).

The Federal Law on Agriculture empowers the Federal Council to determine which agricultural products should be subject to licensing, and also gives the government the right to abolish the GIP.

Procedures

6. The GIP is not used to limit the quantity or value of imports.

7.(a) In view of the time required to obtain a licence, the application must be submitted one to five days in advance of the importation itself. Licences can generally be obtained within a shorter time-frame; that is, the same day the application is submitted.

(b) Generally, yes.

(c) No.

(d) Applications are considered by a single authority, the Federal Office for Agriculture, (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/fr/home.html>).

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a and b) As a rule, any natural or legal person domiciled in Switzerland or Liechtenstein, irrespective of nationality or origin, is eligible to receive a licence. There is no published list of authorized importers.

In the case of GIPs for wine, grape must and grapes for pressing, the applicant firm must provide its Swiss Wine Trade Inspection (CSCV) identification number to the Federal Office for Agriculture. An applicant who does not yet have this number must first request it from the CSCV. The fee for registering with the CSCV is given on the following website: <http://www.cscv-swk.ch>.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the name of the firm, its contact details and its business identification number (IDE) are required. Application forms are available on the following website: <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch>.

There are special conditions for GIPs for wine, grape must and grapes for pressing, which are set out in point 9 above.

11. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 3 to CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The validity is not limited as long as the conditions on which the licence was granted are met.
15. No.
16. General import permits are not transferable.
- 17.(a) Not applicable.
- 17.(b) There are no other conditions.

Other procedural requirements

18. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).
19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

2 ALLOCATION OF TARIFF QUOTAS

Sub-Chapters 2.1 to 2.5 outline the licensing procedures for the allocation of tariff quota (TQ) shares. In the previous notification (G/LIC/N/3/CHE/14), these procedures were outlined in Chapter 1: Agricultural Products.

With regards to the tariff quotas not listed, no licensing procedures are in force other than the GIP automatic licence (see Chapter 1), as either the quotas are not applied or the quota shares are allocated in the order in which the customs declarations are received.

2.1 Breeding and production animals

Outline of system

1. A non-automatic licence is required for the allocation of TQ shares. This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorized to carry out imports within the TQ. Quota shares may be transferred among holders of non-automatic licences and are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not required to present this authorization at the border. The Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/fr/home.html>) is the competent authority for the allocation of TQ shares.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The goods covered by TQs are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). They are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0101.21	0101.90	0102.31	0103.10	0104.10
0101.29	0102.21	0102.39	0103.91	0104.20
0101.30	0102.29	0102.90	0103.92	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.
4. Non-automatic licensing allows for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilization; it restricts the quantity of imports.
5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr, RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>), Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>) and Ordinance on livestock breeding (RS 916.310,

<https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121964/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The Federal Law on Agriculture does not allow the government to abolish the TQ system.

Procedures

- 6.I The administration of TQs for the calendar year 2019 is described in Switzerland's notification to the Committee on Agriculture (G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.18). All information concerning TQ utilization (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions, etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances (cf. question 5).
- II The TQs for breeding and production animals are distributed in chronological order of submission of applications to OFAG (<https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/en/home.html>). The non-automatic licences are valid from 1 January of the quota period or as soon as they are issued during the quota period. All non-automatic licences are valid until the end of the calendar year (31 December). Exception for bovine animals: 70% of the TQ is put up for auction in September, with the licences valid for the next calendar year (1 January to 31 December) and the remaining 30% of the TQ is put up for auction in April, with the licences valid until the end of the same year (31 December).
- III The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In January of each year, the annex to the Federal Council Report on Tariff Measures, in the context of the report on external economic policy, provides the names of importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities actually imported by individual importing companies. This annex to the Report can be viewed online at <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch> by following the link "*Publication de l'attribution des contingents tarifaires*".
- IV With regards to bovines, the deadline for applications in the case of auctions is generally set at 30 days following publication. As regards the other regimes, there is no time-limit for the submission of applications. They can be submitted throughout the year of opening of the TQ.
- V As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to five working days according to the product.
- VI 3 to 90 days.
- VII Applications are examined by a single administrative body. The importer must obtain a licence from the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).
- VIII The TQs for breeding and production animals are distributed in chronological order of submission of applications, with the exception of the TQs for bovine animals, which are put up for auction.
- IX The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI No.
7. Not applicable.
8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a) TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organizations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that are established on Swiss customs territory and provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to the utilization of TQ shares. In January of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities imported by individual importing companies (see point 6(III) above).

9.(b) Not applicable.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. For breeding animals, the importer is required to provide a copy of the pedigree certificate. In the case of non-pure-bred breeding or production animals, a written statement justifying the animal's use is required.

11. Other than the automatic licence (GIP) number, the importer is not required to present an authorization to carry out imports within the TQ; controls are performed electronically when the customs declaration is processed. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 3 to CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. Non-automatic licences are valid until the end of the calendar year (31 December).

15. No.

16. In general, TQ share transfers are permitted and must be notified by the holder of the TQ share no later than the working day before the day the customs declaration is made, with the help of the Internet application made available to users by the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG) (Article 14 of the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products).

17.(a) The TQs for bovine breeding and production animals are put up for auction.

17.(b) Not applicable.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

2.2 Animals for slaughter, meat and prepared meat products**Outline of system**

1. A non-automatic licence is needed for the allocation of TQ shares. This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorized to carry out imports within the TQ. Quota shares may be transferred among holders of non-automatic licences and are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not required to present this authorization at the border. The Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/en/home.html>) is the competent authority for the allocation of tariff quota shares.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The goods covered by TQs are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). They are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0101.29	0203.29	0206.90	0210.11
0102.29	0204.10	0207.11	0210.12
0102.39	0204.21	0207.12	0210.19
0102.90	0204.22	0207.13	0210.20
0103.91	0204.23	0207.14	0210.99
0103.92	0204.30	0207.24	1601.00
0104.10	0204.41	0207.25	1602.10
0104.20	0204.42	0207.26	1602.20
0201.10	0204.43	0207.27	1602.31
0201.20	0204.50	0207.41	1602.32
0201.30	0205.00	0207.42	1602.39
0202.10	0206.10	0207.44	1602.41
0202.20	0206.21	0207.45	1602.42
0202.30	0206.22	0207.51	1602.49
0203.11	0206.29	0207.52	1602.50
0203.12	0206.30	0207.54	1602.90
0203.19	0206.41	0207.55	
0203.21	0206.49	0207.60	
0203.22	0206.80	0209.10	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. Non-automatic licensing allows for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilization; it restricts the quantity of imports.

5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr, RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>), Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>) and Ordinance on the slaughter cattle and meat markets (RS 916.341, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20031095/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The Federal Law on Agriculture does not allow the government to abolish the TQ system.

Procedures

6.I The administration of TQs for the calendar year 2019 is described in Switzerland's notification to the Committee on Agriculture (G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.18). All information concerning TQ utilization (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions, etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances (cf. question 5). Auction dates and details are published in the specialized press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).

II The maximum duration of non-automatic licences is one year.

III The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In January of each year, the annex to the Federal Council Report on Tariff Measures, in the context of the report on external economic policy, provides the names of importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities actually imported by individual importing companies. This annex to the Report can be viewed online at <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch> by following the link "*Publication de l'attribution des contingents tarifaires*".

IV The deadline for applications involving auctions is generally set at 30 working days following publication in the case of tariff lines with a one-year TQ period, and six days for the others.

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- V As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to five working days according to the product.
- VI 3 to 90 days.
- VII Applications are examined by a single administrative body. The importer must obtain a licence from the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).
- VIII TQ distribution in accordance with a contribution to local production (50% for bovine and ovine meat, 40% for caprine and equine meat) and auctioning (50% for bovine and ovine meat, 60% for caprine and equine meat, 100% for other products).
- IX The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI No.

7. Not applicable.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a) TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organizations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that are established on Swiss customs territory and provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to the utilization of TQ shares. In January of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and the quantities imported by individual importing companies (see point 6(III) above).

9.(b) Not applicable.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the following website: www.import.ofag.admin.ch.

11. Other than the automatic licence (GIP) number, the importer is not required to present an authorization to carry out imports within the TQ; controls are performed electronically when the customs declaration is processed. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 3 to CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The maximum duration of non-automatic licences is one year.

15. No.

16. In general, TQ share transfers are permitted and must be notified by the holder of the TQ share no later than the working day before the day the customs declaration is made, with the help of the Internet application made available to users by OFAG (Article 14 of the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products).

17.(a) The TQs for bovine breeding and production animals are distributed for purchases of Swiss animals and the slaughter of animals in Switzerland or are put up for auction.

17.(b) Not applicable.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

2.3 Milk, dairy products and casein

Outline of system

1. A non-automatic licence is required for the allocation of TQ shares. This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorized to carry out imports within the TQ. Quota shares may be transferred among holders of non-automatic licences and are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not required to present this authorization at the border. The Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/en/home.html>) is the competent authority for the allocation of TQ shares.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The goods covered by TQs are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). They are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0401.10	0402.29	0404.90	0406.30
0401.20	0402.91	0405.10	0406.40
0401.40	0402.99	0405.20	0406.90
0401.50	0403.10	0405.90	3501.10
0402.10	0403.90	0406.10	3501.90
0402.21	0404.10	0406.20	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. Non-automatic licensing allows for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilization; it restricts the quantity of imports.

5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr, RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>) and Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The Federal Law on Agriculture does not allow the government to abolish the TQ system.

Procedures

6.I The administration of TQs for the calendar year 2019 is described in Switzerland's notification to the Committee on Agriculture (G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.18). All information concerning TQ utilization (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions, etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances (cf. question 5). Auction dates and details are published in the specialized press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).

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- II Quotas and non-automatic licences are established for one calendar year, with the exception of partial tariff quota No. 7.2 for milk powder, which is divided into two bands (the first allows importation throughout the entire quota period; the second, only during the second six months of the quota period).
- III The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In January of each year, the annex to the Federal Council Report on Tariff Measures, in the context of the report on external economic policy, provides the names of importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities actually imported by individual importing companies. This annex to the Report can be viewed online at <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch> by following the link "*Publication de l'attribution des contingents tarifaires*".
- IV For partial tariff quotas No. 7.2 (milk powder) and No. 7.4 (butter), the deadline for applications in the case of auctions is generally set at 14 working days following publication. Other partial TQs are administered on a first come, first served basis.
- V As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to five working days according to the product.
- VI 3 to 90 days.
- VII Applications are examined by a single administrative body. The importer must obtain a licence from the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).
- VIII The distribution of partial tariff quotas takes place as follows:
- partial tariff quota No. 7.2 (milk powder) and partial tariff quota No. 7.4 (butter): by auction;
 - partial tariff quota No. 07.3 (various dairy products): in the order in which applications are received by OFAG (as needed);
 - other partial TQs are administered on a first come, first served basis.
- IX The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI No.
7. Not applicable.
8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

- 9.(a) TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organizations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that are established on Swiss customs territory and provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to the utilization of TQ shares. In January of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities imported by individual importing companies (see point 6(III) above).
- 9.(b) Not applicable.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the following website: www.import.ofag.admin.ch.

11. Other than the automatic licence (GIP) number, the importer is not required to present an authorization to carry out imports within the TQ; controls are performed electronically when the customs declaration is processed. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 3 to CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The maximum duration of non-automatic licences is one year.

15. No.

16. In general, TQ share transfers are permitted and must be notified by the holder of the TQ share no later than the working day before the day the customs declaration is made, with the help of the Internet application made available to users by OFAG (Article 14 of the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products).

17.(a) Applicants for partial TQs Nos. 7.2 and 7.4 must take part in the auction.

17.(b) Not applicable.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

2.4 Fresh fruit and vegetables (A), fruit for cider and fruit products (B), frozen vegetables (C)

Outline of system

1. A non-automatic licence is required for the allocation of TQ shares. This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorized to carry out imports within the TQ. Quota shares may be transferred among holders of non-automatic licences and are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not required to present this authorization at the border. The Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/en/home.html>) is the competent authority for the allocation of TQ shares.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Goods covered by tariff quotas are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). They are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

(A)	0702.00	0707.00	0709.99
	0703.10	0708.10	0808.10
	0703.90	0708.20	0808.30

0704.10	0708.90	0808.40
0704.20	0709.20	0809.10
0704.90	0709.30	0809.21
0705.11	0709.40	0809.29
0705.19	0709.60	0809.40
0705.21	0709.70	0810.10
0705.29	0709.91	0810.20
0706.10	0709.92	0810.30
0706.90	0709.93	
(B)		
0808.10	2009.71	2202.99
0808.30	2009.79	2206.00
0808.40	2009.89	
2009.71	2009.90	
(C)		
0710.21	0710.30	0710.90
0710.22	0710.80	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. Non-automatic licensing allows for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilization; it restricts the quantity of imports.

5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr, RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>), Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>) and Ordinance on the import and export of vegetables, fruit, and horticultural plants (RS 916.121.10, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983424/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The Federal Law on Agriculture does not allow the government to abolish the TQ system.

Procedures

6.I The administration of TQs for the calendar year 2019 is described in Switzerland's notification to the Committee on Agriculture (G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.18). All information concerning TQ utilization (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions, etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances (cf. question 5). Auction dates and details are published in the specialized press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).

II Non-automatic licences are issued for 12 months maximum.

III The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In January of each year, the annex to the Federal Council Report on Tariff Measures, in the context of the report on external economic policy, provides the names of importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and quantities actually imported by individual importing companies. This annex to the Report can be viewed online at <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch> by following the link "*Publication de l'attribution des contingents tarifaires*".

IV (A) With respect to non-automatic licences granted according to previous imports by the applicant, OFAG sends the new licence to the importers at the beginning of each year. As regards other licensing systems, there is no time limit for the submission of applications; they can be submitted throughout the year of opening of the TQ. Licences are issued primarily on the basis of the applicants' previous imports.

(B) The deadline for applications in the case of auctions is generally set at 30 working days following publication.

(C) OFAG sends the new licences to the importers before the beginning of the TQ period.

-
- V As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to five working days according to the product.
- VI The date of opening of the period of importation may be the same as the date for the utilization of the licence. In other cases, the goods may be imported as soon as the individual TQ share has been allocated.
- VII Applications are examined by a single administrative body. The importer must obtain a licence from the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).
- VIII The allocation of partial tariff quotas takes place as follows:
- (A) For the vast majority of products, licences are issued according to previous imports by the applicant. For certain products, allocations are made in response to the market shares or *pro rata* to applications. During the non-administered period for each product and for some products throughout the year, imports within the TQ take place without allocation and only the automatic licence is required for importation.
 - (B) Licences are issued by auction. New importers may obtain a licence when each new allocation is made.
 - (C) Licences are issued on the basis of a combination of two criteria: previous imports by the applicant, and purchase of domestic goods by the applicant. New importers obtain a non-automatic licence upon applying for an automatic licence.
- IX The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI No.

7. Not applicable.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a) TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organizations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that are established on Swiss customs territory and provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to the utilization of TQ shares. In January of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year including data on quantities allocated and the quantities imported by individual importing companies (see point 6(III) above).

9.(b) Not applicable.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the following website: www.import.ofag.admin.ch.

11. Other than the automatic licence (GIP) number, the importer is not required to present an authorization to carry out imports within the TQ; controls are performed electronically when the customs declaration is processed. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14.

- (A) The validity of the licence ranges from one month to 50 weeks according to the system of allocation in force and cannot be extended.
- (B) The validity of the licence ranges from three months to one year and cannot be extended.
- (C) The period of validity of the licence is one year and cannot be extended.

15. No.

16. In general, TQ share transfers are permitted and must be notified by the holder of the TQ share no later than the working day before the day the customs declaration is made, with the help of the Internet application made available to users by OFAG (Article 14 of the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products).

17.(a) For the criteria for TQ allocation, see point 6(VIII) above.

17.(b) Not applicable.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

2.5 Potatoes, including seed potatoes and potato products

Outline of system

1. A non-automatic licence is needed for the allocation of TQ shares. This licence is part of an administrative procedure whereby importers who meet the relevant legal requirements are authorized to carry out imports within the TQ. Quota shares may be transferred among holders of non-automatic licences and are usually allocated for a limited period. The importer is not required to present this authorization at the border. The Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG, <https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/en/home.html>) is the competent authority for the allocation of tariff quota shares.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Potatoes, including seed potatoes and potato products, are subject to non-automatic licensing for imports within TQs. Goods covered by TQs are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). They are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017): 0701.10, 0701.90, 0710.1010, 0710.90, 0712.90, 1105.10, 1105.20, 2001.90, 2004.10, 2004.10, 2004.10, 2004.90, 2005.20, 2005.99.

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. Non-automatic licensing allows for the individual allocation of TQ shares and the control of their utilization; it restricts the quantity of imports.

5. Legal bases: Federal Law on Agriculture (LAgr, RS 910.1, Article 24, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>) and Ordinance on the

import of agricultural products (OIAgr, RS 916.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20110403/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The Federal Law on Agriculture does not allow the government to abolish the TQ system.

Procedures

- 6.I The administration of TQs for the calendar year 2019 is described in Switzerland's notification to the Committee on Agriculture (G/AG/N/CHE/13/Add.18). All information concerning TQ utilization (quantities, application procedures for licences, exceptions, exemptions, etc.) is set forth in the specific ordinances (cf. question 5). Auction dates and details are published in the specialized press and the Swiss Official Trade Gazette (FOSC).
- II Non-automatic licences are issued for 12 months maximum. The period of validity of TQ shares is set by OFAG.
- III The unused remainder of the allocations is not added to quotas for a succeeding period. In January of each year, the annex to the Federal Council Report on Tariff Measures, in the context of the report on external economic policy, provides the names of importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and the quantities actually imported by individual importing companies. This annex to the Report can be viewed online at <http://www.import.ofag.admin.ch> by following the link "*Publication de l'attribution des contingents tarifaires*".
- IV With respect to non-automatic licences granted on the basis of contribution to domestic production for TQ 14.1 (seed potatoes) and TQ 14.2 (potatoes for processing), on the basis of auctions for half of TQ 14.3 (table potatoes) and according to market shares for the other half of TQ 14.3, and on the basis of auctions for TQ 14.4 (potato products), OFAG sends the new licence to the importers before the beginning of the TQ period. For half of TQ 14.3 and for TQ 14.4, the deadline for applications in the case of auctions is generally set at 30 days following publication.
- V As a rule, applicants receive a response within one to five working days according to the product.
- VI Licences are granted before the opening of the period of importation.
- VII Applications are examined by a single administrative body. The importer must obtain a licence from the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG).
- VIII Non-automatic licences for TQ 14.1 (seed potatoes) and TQ 14.2 (potatoes for processing) are allocated according to purchases of domestic goods. Non-automatic licences for TQ 14.3 (table potatoes) are allocated for half of the quota according to the criterion of the market shares of eligible parties and for the other half by auction. Non-automatic licences for TQ 14.4 (potato products) are allocated by auction. New importers may obtain a licence when each new allocation is made.
- IX The same rules apply to all imports within the TQs, regardless of the regulations of the exporting country.
- X Export licences from the exporting countries are not required.
- XI No.
7. Not applicable.
8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9.(a) TQ shares are only allocated to individuals, businesses and organizations, irrespective of nationality or origin, that are established on Swiss customs territory and provide guarantees that, where necessary, they can meet the requirements and undertake the commitments related to the utilization of TQ shares. In January of each year, the annex to the Report on Tariff Measures provides the names of all the importers for the preceding year and includes data on quantities allocated and the quantities imported by individual importing companies (see point 6(III) above).

9.(b) Not applicable.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the following website: www.import.ofag.admin.ch.

11. Other than the automatic licence (GIP) number, the importer is not required to present an authorization to carry out imports within the TQ; controls are performed electronically when the customs declaration is processed. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. Import fees specific to certain batches of agricultural products imported under a GIP are listed in Annex 6 to the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products (RS 916.01) and are CHF 5 per batch of goods cleared through customs. These amounts correspond to the actual cost of the administrative services involved.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The validity of the licence ranges from five months to one year according to the system of allocation in force.

15. No.

16. In general, TQ share transfers are permitted and must be notified by the holder of the TQ share no later than the working day before the day the customs declaration is made, with the help of the Internet application made available to users by OFAG (Article 14 of the Ordinance on the import of agricultural products).

17.(a) For the criteria for TQ allocation, see point 6(VIII) above.

17.(b) No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

3 SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES**3.1 Import, transit and export of animals and animal products****Outline of system**

1. The purpose of the sanitary measures is to prevent the introduction of epizootics and goods that present a health risk. As a rule, these measures also apply to re-importation and transit. The Federal Office for Food Security and Veterinary Affairs (OSAV, <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/fr/home.html>)

is responsible for issuing the authorizations provided for under veterinary legislation² for the importation of animals and goods.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. In the case of products from the EU, Norway or Iceland, an authorization is required for:
- the importation or re-importation of animals or animal products which do not fulfil the conditions laid down in Annex 11 to the Agreement of 21 June 1999 on trade in agricultural products (hereinafter the "Agricultural Agreement"; RS 0.916.026.81), including in particular the re-importation of cloven-hoofed animals after a short stay in a member State of the European Union to participate in an exhibition or similar event;
 - the importation of animal by-products of categories 1 and 2 under Articles 4 and 5 of the Ordinance on the elimination of animal by-products (OESPA; RS 916.441.22);
 - imports of animals or animal products which are not regulated by the Agricultural Agreement.

In the case of products from other countries, an authorization is required for:

- non-commercial samples and laboratory samples that do not fulfil the conditions laid down in Article 12 of the Ordinance on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with third countries (OITE-PT). This applies to products classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers: 0511.99, 3001.20, 3001.90, 3002.10, 3002.90;
- dogs, cats and ferrets from countries where urban rabies cannot be ruled out (countries not included in Annex 3 to the Ordinance of 28 November 2014 on the import, transit and export of pets (OITE-AC)) and imported directly by air into Switzerland. This applies to animals classified under the customs tariff number 0106.1900.

3. See point 2 above.

4. No restrictions. The purpose of the sanitary measures is to prevent the introduction of epizootics and goods that present a health risk.

5. Veterinary legislation³ on the importation of animals and goods (Article 7 of the Ordinance of 18 November 2015 on the on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with the EU member States, Iceland and Norway [OITE-UE; RS 916.443.11], the Ordinance of 18 November 2015 on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with third countries [OITE-PT; RS 916.443.10], and Article 14 of the Ordinance of 28 November 2014 on the import, transit and export of pets [OITE-AC; RS 916.443.14]). These are police authorizations issued in accordance with the Law on Epizootics of 1 July 1966 (LFE; RS 916.40). It is not possible to make the regime more flexible or to modify the legal bases.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) It is recommended that applications should be submitted at least three weeks in advance of importation.

(b) Sometimes. In some cases, an approval, opinion or authorization is required from other services (cantonal veterinary services, Federal Office for Agriculture [OFAG]).

(c) No.

(d) See point 7(b) above. The procedure is generally regulated so that the applicant needs to approach only two services (OSAV and OFAG).

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal

² Available at: <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/fr/home/import-und-export/rechts-und-vollzugsgrundlagen/gesetzgebung.html> (in French, German and Italian only).

³ Available at: <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/fr/home/import-und-export/rechts-und-vollzugsgrundlagen/gesetzgebung.html> (in French, German and Italian only).

the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are established on the Swiss customs territory.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Please refer to the following websites:

- for laboratory samples and non-commercial samples:
https://www2.blv.admin.ch/fr/import_filter/pdf?country_group%5B%5D=countrygroup_dritt_staaten&category%5B%5D=cat_tp&supergroup%5B%5D=Og-tierische_nebenprodukte&group%5B%5D=Og-mustersendungen_laborproben;
- for dogs, cats and ferrets:
<https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home/tiere/reisen-mit-heimtieren/hunde-katzen-und-frettchen.html>.

11. Import licence (or, if possible, accreditation as a professional importer), supplementary data sheet, as appropriate. All other import requirements are listed in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. A fee of CHF 40 has been charged since 1 January 2015 for issuing an authorization for dogs, cats and ferrets, and for issuing an authorization for laboratory samples and non-commercial samples if the batch is not subject to veterinary border control.

13. As a rule, no.

Conditions of licensing

14. For dogs, cats and ferrets: until the end of the period of validity of the vaccination, that is, for three years maximum. For non-commercial samples: according to type of sample (epizootics policy risk), issue of an individual authorization or annual authorization. Import permits for protected species are valid for three months; professional importer accreditations are valid for two years.

15. No.

16. The licences are not transferable between eligible persons.

17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

Other procedural requirements

18. Sometimes. Subject to cantonal authorizations required by veterinary laws and laws on foodstuffs.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

3.2 Plants and plant products (phytosanitary certificate, PC)

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the phytosanitary measures is to prevent the introduction and propagation of quarantine organisms (that is, harmful organisms that are considered particularly hazardous under the terms of the Ordinance on plant protection [<https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20101847/index.html>]). The import of plants and plant products, where not prohibited because of the phytosanitary risk that certain plants and plant products present (risk of introducing particularly hazardous harmful organisms), is subject to

the phytosanitary certification (PC) regime within the meaning of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Certificates are issued under the responsibility of the national plant protection organization of the exporting country if the goods concerned meet Switzerland's phytosanitary requirements. No licence as such is needed for the import of goods requiring a phytosanitary certificate, but each shipment is subject to a phytosanitary check upon importation and, for this reason, must be notified to the Federal Plant Protection Service (SPF) no later than the day before the check is to take place. Importers are entered in an official register managed by the SPF.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Phytosanitary measures applicable to the import of plants, plant products and other items include, on the one hand, the prohibition of imports and, on the other, the phytosanitary certification regime in accordance with the procedures set out in the IPPC. Dispensation may be granted in the case of goods the import of which is prohibited or which cannot meet the mandatory phytosanitary requirements for obtaining a phytosanitary certificate. Dispensation is granted solely in the case of goods that are imported for research, selection, multiplication or diagnostic purposes, provided that the conditions for their intended use make it possible to rule out the propagation of particularly hazardous harmful organisms.

The products in question are essentially those listed under the following customs tariff numbers or chapters:

- 0601/0602/0603/0604 (Live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage);
- ex 0701/0702/0703/0709/0712 (Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers);
- ex 0804/0805/0806/0807/0808/0809/0810 (Edible fruit);
- ex 1001/1002/1005/1006/1008 (Cereals);
- ex 1205/1206/1207/1209/1211/1212 (Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder);
- es 14 (Bark and bark products);
- ex 25/31/38 (Soil and other substrates for cultivation);
- ex 44 (Wood and wood products);
- ex 9406 (Prefabricated buildings).

3. The PC regime applies to all plants for planting, irrespective of origin, with the exception of those from the European Union (EU). Plants other than those for planting, plant products and products originating in countries other than the EU member States, as set out in Part B of Annex 5 to the Ordinance on plant protection (for reference see point 5), are also subject to the PC regime. The import prohibition concerns the goods set out in Parts A and B of Annex 3 to the Ordinance on plant protection, originating in countries where the phytosanitary situation is such that the goods present a clear risk of introducing harmful organisms that are particularly hazardous for Switzerland. For certain goods (e.g. potatoes or plants of specific conifer species), the prohibition extends to all countries other than member countries of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO).

4. The purpose of the measures is to prevent the introduction of particularly hazardous harmful organisms (quarantine organisms) affecting plants. The regimes governing plants, plant products and other items are frequently revised according to the phytosanitary situation in Switzerland (information on the current situation is available online at www.servicephyto.ch by following the link "*Protection phytosanitaire dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'horticulture productrice*").

5. Legal bases:

For forest plants and plant products: Federal Law on Forests of 4 October 1991 (LFO, RS 921.0, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19910255/index.html>). For other plants and plant products: Law on Agriculture of 29 April 1998 (RS 910.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983407/index.html>).

The Ordinance on plant protection establishes which items are subject to the different regimes (RS 916.20, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20101847/index.html>). The Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV), Forest Division (for forest plants and plant products), and the Federal Office for Agriculture (OFAG) may issue an ordinance adopting measures in the event of the appearance of a new harmful organism that could prove particularly hazardous, or if

the phytosanitary situation in a country worsens as a result of a particularly hazardous harmful organism and the import of certain goods originating in that country would entail an increased phytosanitary risk for Switzerland pending clarification of the potential damage by this organism. The Federal Council has the authority under the law to decide on the items that are subject to the regimes described in point 2 above.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no restrictions).

7.(a) Shipments of goods subject to the PC regime must be notified to the SPF for the planning of phytosanitary checks no later than the day before their arrival in Switzerland. The notification must be made online with the EU's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) (www.servicephyto.ch > *Importations et exportations* > *Importation* > *Depuis des pays non-membres de l'UE* > *Destinataires commerciaux en Suisse*), to which Switzerland is affiliated.

(b) As explained in point 3.2.1 above, no licences, as such, are issued by a Swiss authority. The sole document required, where applicable, is the phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization of the exporting country. The organization establishes the conditions for granting such certificates.

(c) No.

(d) Reviews of the conformity of phytosanitary certificates and the phytosanitary status of imported goods are carried out solely by the SPF.

8. Only non-conformity is grounds for refusal.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to import such goods, provided that they are domiciled in Switzerland and, with the exception of private individuals, are registered with the SPF. Registration is free of charge and may be requested using a form available for download at www.servicephyto.ch > *Importations et exportations* > *Importation* > *Informations complémentaires* > *Formulaires*.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Besides the usual information regarding business name, postal address, telephone number and email, the form referred to in point 9(b) above asks for additional information on the type of goods the importing establishment wishes to import.

11. A phytosanitary certificate (see points 1 and 2 above), which must not have been issued more than 14 days before the date on which the goods left the country of dispatch.

12. Yes. The charge is a fixed sum of CHF 50 per shipment. If the shipment comprises multiple batches of goods subject to checks, CHF 10 is charged for each additional batch. The charge is intended to cover the cost of carrying out the phytosanitary checks.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. In general, an import is notified via TRACES only when the importer is certain the import will take place. However, if a notified shipment does not arrive within the notified time-frame, the importer may give notice of any changes relating to the timing of the import.

15. No.

16. No.

17.(a) No.

(b) No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

4 CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES) AND VERIFICATION OF THE LAWFUL ORIGIN OF IMPORTED MARINE FISHERY PRODUCTS

4.1 Animals

Outline of system

1. The Federal Office for Food Security and Veterinary Affairs (OSAV) is responsible for issuing import licences for the species covered by the CITES Convention, which aims to ensure that no species is threatened with extinction as a result of unsustainable international trade.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The list of products coming under the conservation of species appears in the Ordinance of the Federal Department of the Interior (DFI) on control of the circulation of protected species of fauna and flora (Ordinance on CITES controls) of 4 September 2013 (RS 453.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121349/index.html>).

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. CITES aims to ensure that no species is threatened with extinction as a result of unsustainable international trade.

5. Legislation on the protection of species with respect to the importation of animals and goods (Article 7 of the Federal Law on circulation of protected species of fauna and flora (LCITES; RS 453, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20092733/index.html>) of 16 March 2012), requiring authorization pursuant to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES; RS 0.453) of 3 March 1973, and the Federal Law on Fisheries (LFSP; RS 923.0) of 21 June 1991. It is not possible either to make the regime more flexible or to modify the legal bases.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) It is recommended that applications should be submitted at least one week in advance of importation. Only authorizations concerning the species listed in Appendix I of CITES require a slightly longer time frame owing to the procedure stipulated by the international treaty (consultation of scientific authorities). However, many applications are processed on the day on which they are submitted.

(b) Sometimes. In some cases, an approval, opinion or authorization is required from other services (cantonal veterinary services, Federal Office for Agriculture [OFAG], Federal Office for the Environment [OFEV], Technical Commission for the Conservation of Species).

(c) No.

(d) See point 7(b) above. The procedure is generally regulated so that the applicant needs to approach only two services (OSAV and OFAG).

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are established on the Swiss customs territory.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Please refer to the website <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home/import-und-export/import/importe-aus-drittstaaten.html>, following the link "*Formulaire*".

11. Import licence (or, if possible, accreditation as a professional importer), CITES documents, supplementary data sheet, as appropriate. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. No fee is charged for issuing the authorization itself. However, the border control is subject to a fee of CHF 88, which includes the cost of establishing the authorization.

13. As a rule, no.

Conditions of licensing

14. Import permits for protected species are valid for three months; professional importer accreditations are valid for two years.

15. No.

16. The licences are not transferable between eligible persons.

17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. Sometimes. Subject to cantonal authorizations required under veterinary laws and the laws on foodstuffs.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

4.2 Plants and plant products

Outline of system

1. The Federal Office for Food Security and Veterinary Affairs (OSAV) is responsible for issuing the authorizations for plants and plant products listed in the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 3 March 1973 (CITES). CITES aims to ensure that no species is threatened with extinction as a result of unsustainable international trade.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. All plants and plant products listed in Appendix I of CITES are subject to licensing. The plants and plant products listed in Appendices II and III are subject to licensing only if they have been taken from the wild. Artificially propagated material is excluded therefrom.

The list of products coming under the conservation of species appears in the Ordinance of the Federal Department of the Interior (DFI) on control of the circulation of protected species of fauna and flora

(Ordinance on CITES controls) of 4 September 2013 (RS 453.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121349/index.html>).

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. No restrictions.

5. Legal bases: the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 3 March 1973 (CITES) (RS. 0.453), the Ordinance on the conservation of species (OCE; RS 453, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20092733/index.html>), and the Ordinance on CITES controls (RS 453.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121349/index.html>).

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) The application must be submitted at least two weeks in advance of importation. Each application for plants and plant products listed in Appendix I of CITES and taken from the wild has to be reviewed by the scientific commission (scientific authority within the meaning of CITES, Article IX).

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) The importer must contact only the Federal Office for Food Security and Veterinary Affairs (OSAV), but each application for plants and plant products listed in Appendix I of CITES and taken from the wild has to be reviewed by the scientific commission. See point (a) above.

8. There are no reasons to refuse a licence application other than failure to meet the specific criteria set out in Articles III-V of CITES. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. A copy of the CITES export document or of the re-export certificate must be submitted. In addition, for plants and plant products listed in Appendix I of CITES and taken from the wild, it is necessary to specify the reason for import and provide a description of the establishment and facilities where the plants will be held.

11. The phytosanitary certificate and, where appropriate, the licence (authorization for goods for which dispensation has been granted). All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12.-13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The period of validity is six months. A request for extension can be made by sending the original licence, which will then be superseded.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. Specimens are subject to control upon import pursuant to OCE requirements.
19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

4.3 Imported marine fishery products

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the regulations on the monitoring of imported marine fishery products is to ensure that only fishery products of lawful origin (that is without products derived from illegal, unreported and unregulated [IUU] fishing) are imported into Switzerland. The consignments of marine fishery products concerned undergo inspection and must be registered with the Federal Office for Food Security and Veterinary Affairs (OSAV, <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/fr/home.html>) for verification of documents.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Marine fishery products, which must be declared in advance to OSAV and require an authorization number, are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on verification of the lawful origin of imported marine fishery products (see <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20153280/index.html#app1ahref0>).
3. Consignments from all countries of origin, except those listed on Annex 2 to the Ordinance, are subject to verification (see <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20153280/index.html#app2ahref0>).
4. No restrictions.
5. Legal basis: Ordinance of 20 April 2016 on verification of the lawful origin of imported fishery products (RS 453.2, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20153280/index.html>), on the basis of Articles 7(2)(a), 9(1), 12(5), 13(3), 20(4), 21 and 26(5) of the Federal Law of 16 March 2012 on the movement of protected species of marine plants and animals (BGCITES, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20092733/index.html>).

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a) Persons subject to the registration requirement must register consignments of marine fishery products with OSAV at least three business days prior to their planned importation. However, most firms do not comply with the rule because they receive the necessary documents at a later time. New consignments are normally declared on the day of importation or one day prior.
 - (b) This sometimes occurs. For example, if a new consignment is imported on short notice.
 - (c) No.
 - (d) IUU verification is carried out only by OSAV and the release number for customs clearance is assigned only by OSAV.
8. There are no reasons to refuse a licence application other than failure to meet the specific criteria set out in Articles 4 and 8 of the Ordinance on verification of the lawful origin of imported marine fishery products. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any firm wishing to import marine fishery products into Switzerland may apply to OSAV for an IUU release number.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. To register for IUU inspection, the applicant must send OSAV the following documents by email:

- catch certificate;
- invoice;
- way-bills;
- processing declaration, if applicable;
- Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED).

11. For importation, the applicant must have the documents indicated in point 10 and a release number from OSAV.

12. Yes, the importer is charged CHF 60 per consignment for the inspection. Consignment: Fishery products sent to an importer at the same time or under a single way-bill.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The release is valid for the importation of a specific consignment; extensions or the use of the same release number for another consignment are not permitted.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

5 FOREST REPRODUCTIVE MATERIAL

Outline of system

1. The Forestry Division of the Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV) is responsible for issuing the authorizations required by the regulations governing the import and export of forest reproductive material. The purpose of these measures remains above all to ensure the use of healthy and appropriate forest reproductive material at the place of reforestation.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The regulations cover certain varieties of trees that are important for Swiss forestry (11 varieties of conifers and 31 varieties of broad-leaved trees). See also Annex 1 to the Ordinance on forest reproductive material (RS 921.552.1). This concerns the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017): 0602.90 and 1209.99.

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. No. The purpose of the Ordinance is to ensure the supply of appropriate forest reproductive material, i.e. suited to the geographical and climatic conditions of Switzerland.

5. The Federal Law on Forests of 4 October 1991 (LFo; RS 921.0, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19910255/index.html>), the Ordinance on forests of 30 November 1992 (OFo; RS 921.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19920310/index.html>), and the Ordinance of

29 November 1994 on forest reproductive material (RS 921.552.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19940363/index.html>). The tree varieties subject to the Ordinance are listed in Annex I thereto. The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to the licensing system. The government is authorized to revise the Ordinance.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) Fourteen days.

(b) Only where justified.

(c) No.

(d) Applications for import licences are examined by OFEV's Forestry Division (<https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/fr/home/themes/forets.html>), which also issues the licence.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence provided they are domiciled in Switzerland.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. The application for an import licence must indicate the variety of tree, where it comes from, the quantity, the supplier and the buyer. The importer must include in the application a certificate of origin for the tree varieties. There is no specific form.

11. Import licence and certificate of origin.

12. Under the Ordinance on OFEV fees (RS 814.014), a fee of CHF 50 may be applied to all import licence applications (to cover administrative costs).

13. As a rule, no.

Conditions of licensing

14. The import licence is valid for six months, extendable for another six months on request.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

6 TRANSPLANTS

Outline of system

1. The Federal Office of Public Health (OFSP, <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/fr/home.html>) is the body responsible for authorizing the import of unmanipulated organs, tissues and cells of human

origin (other than transplant products) intended for transplantation into humans. The Transplantation Law seeks to guarantee the safe handling of transplant products, in particular with a view to protecting donors and recipients.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. An authorization is required for the import of allogeneic organs, tissue and cells of human origin intended for transplantation into humans. This concerns the following Swiss customs tariff number (HS 2017): 3001.9000.

3. All countries.

4. There is no restriction on the quantity and value of the products imported.

5. The Federal Law of 8 October 2004 on the transplantation of organs, tissues and cells (Transplantation Law; RS 810.21, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20010918/index.html>), which entered into force on 1 July 2007. The import procedures are described, *inter alia*, in the Ordinance of 16 March 2007 on the transplantation of human organs, tissues and cells (Transplantation Ordinance; RS 810.211, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20051806/index.html>). The legislation does not authorize the administration to decide which products will be subject to licensing. The government is authorized to revise the Ordinance.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) Import is not allowed without authorization. The authorization procedure takes about four months. In exceptional cases a shorter procedure can be envisaged.

(b) No.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) The OFSP is the sole organ responsible for examining applications.

8. Only if the applicant does not meet the criteria is an authorization refused. The reasons will then be stated in the pre-authorization inspection report. The decision may be appealed to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import authorization provided that they are domiciled in Switzerland. Lists of the authorizations issued are published online at: <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/fr/home/gesetze-und-bewilligungen/gesuche-bewilligungen/gesuche-bewilligungen-bereich-transplantation.html>.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Different documents and certificates may be requested, depending on the type of transplant (according to application and corresponding checklist, available on the transplantation declaration and authorization web page of the OFSP, <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/fr/home/gesetze-und-bewilligungen/gesuche-bewilligungen/gesuche-bewilligungen-bereich-transplantation.html>). A pre-authorization inspection is mandatory.

11. Once the authorization is issued, none (for importation).

12. CHF 500 to 2,000 per authorization (in addition to inspection).

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The period of validity of the authorization is a maximum of five years with the possibility of renewal.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

7 BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS AND IMMUNOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

Outline of system

1. An import licence is required for the importation of blood, blood products and immunological products. Swissmedic, the Swiss Institute for Therapeutic Products, is the sole organ authorized to examine licence applications. The aim is to protect human and animal health by guaranteeing that high quality, safe and effective therapeutic products are placed on the market.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. A licence is required each time blood, blood products or immunological products are imported. There are exceptions to the requirement, including where batches have already been officially released by an oversight authority that is a member of the Official Control Authority Batch Release (OCABR) network. For the products subject to this procedure and the exceptions to the licence requirement, see the relevant laws and ordinances. The products covered are:

- (a) blood and blood products; and
- (b) immunological products, such as vaccines, toxins and serums.

This concerns the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017): 3002.12, 3002.13, 3002.14, 3002.15, 3002.20, 3002.90.

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, whatever their origin.

4. There is no restriction on the quantity and value of the products imported.

5. The Federal Law on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices, dated 15 December 2000 (RS 812.21, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20002716/index.html>). The procedure for imports is described, *inter alia*, in the Ordinance of 17 October 2001 on authorizations regarding medicinal products (RS 812.212.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20180857/index.html>). Laws and amendments thereto must be adopted by Parliament. They contain all important provisions. Ordinances contain implementing provisions and must be based on a higher legal authority, a law. In this case, ordinances do not go through Parliament. A licence is required by law for every import of blood and blood products. In the case of immunological products, this requirement is contained in an ordinance.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) In view of the time required to obtain a licence, the application must be submitted a few days in advance of the importation itself. In normal situations the application is granted and returned within 24 hours of being filed. Exceptionally and in urgent situations, it may be granted upon request by fax.

(b) Exceptionally (see above).

(c) No.

(d) Swissmedic is the sole organ authorized to examine licence applications.

8. There are no reasons to refuse a licence application other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the administrative authority or to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Institutions wishing to import products subject to licensing must obtain the necessary licence from Swissmedic in accordance with the relevant laws. The licence is granted if the institution meets certain specific operational and organizational conditions (e.g. import, wholesale trade and export authorization, authorization to take blood for transfusions or for the production of medicinal products). Swissmedic regularly controls compliance with these conditions. The procedure for obtaining licences is regulated by the relevant ordinance. The list of authorized concerns is regularly published (see https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/fr/home/medicaments-a-usage-humain/bewilligungen_zertifikate/betriebsbewilligungen/titulaire-de-l-autorisation-d-exploitation.html). Moreover, registered products may only be imported by the institutions in whose name they are registered.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Samples of the application form are available online at <https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/fr/home/services/documents/sang-et-les-produits-sanguins-labiles.html> <Formulaires> <Importation à l'unité>. Other certificates may be requested for a more detailed examination of the quality of the products.

11. In addition to the documents usually required by the customs services, only the application form is required. More specific information may be requested in certain cases.

12. CHF 100 per licence (see the Ordinance of 2 December 2011 on the fees of the Swiss Institute for Therapeutic Products (RS 812.214.5)).

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The period of validity of the licence is one month, generally without the possibility of extension.

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. Certain products, such as immunological products or stable blood products, must be registered beforehand by Swissmedic. Moreover, imported batches of registered products are controlled by the Official Medicines Control Laboratory (OMCL) of Swissmedic before being placed on the market, unless they have already been officially released by an oversight authority that is a member of the Official Control Authority Batch Release (OCABR) network.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

8 NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND PRECURSORS USED AND MARKETED FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is to ensure that imports are carried out for the sole purpose of satisfying legitimate medical and industrial needs. Article 5 of the Federal Law on Narcotics of 3 October 1951 (LStup; RS 812.121) stipulates that a special authorization is required from Swissmedic, the Swiss Institute for Therapeutic Products

(<https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/fr/home.html>), for all imports of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. Depending on the substance involved, Swissmedic may issue single authorizations valid once for import, or general authorizations valid for imports carried out over a specific period of time up to the end of each calendar year. Swissmedic, through its Narcotics Division, is responsible for granting import/export authorizations. More detailed information may be obtained from this body (email address: narcotics@swissmedic.ch).

Purposes and coverage of authorization regime

2. All substances that are subject to the authorization system appear in the DFI Ordinance on the schedules of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, precursors and chemical additives of 30 May 2011 (Ordinance on the narcotic drugs schedules, OTStup-DFI, RS 812.121.11). These goods are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0602.10	2921.30	2922.41	2932.19	2933.54	2939.43
0602.90	2921.41	2922.42	2932.20	2933.55	2939.44
0604.20	2921.42	2922.43	2932.91	2933.59	2939.49
0604.90	2921.43	2922.44	2932.92	2933.69	2939.51
1207.99	2921.44	2922.49	2932.93	2933.72	2939.59
1211.30	2921.45	2922.50	2932.94	2933.79	2939.61
1211.40	2921.46	2924.11	2932.95	2933.91	2939.62
1211.90	2921.49	2924.19	2932.99	2933.99	2939.63
1301.90	2921.51	2924.21	2933.19	2934.10	2939.69
1302.11	2921.59	2924.23	2933.21	2934.20	2939.71
1302.19	2922.11	2924.24	2933.29	2934.30	2939.79
2308.00	2922.12	2924.29	2933.32	2934.91	2939.80
2905.51	2922.14	2925.12	2933.33	2934.99	3003.49
2907.19	2922.19	2925.19	2933.39	2935.90	3003.90
2914.31	2922.21	2926.30	2933.41	2939.11	3004.49
2914.50	2922.29	2926.40	2933.49	2939.19	3004.50
2916.34	2922.31	2926.90	2933.52	2939.41	3004.90
2918.19	2922.39	2930.90	2933.53	2939.42	3301.29

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, whatever their origin.

4. Yes. The purpose of the authorization system is to ensure that imports (or exports) are carried out for the sole purpose of satisfying legitimate medical and industrial needs.

5. Article 5 of the Federal Law on Narcotics of 3 October 1951 (LStup; RS 812.121, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19981989/index.html>) stipulates that a special authorization is required from Swissmedic, the Swiss Institute for Therapeutic Products, for all imports (or exports) of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. Article 7 and Chapter 3 of the Ordinance on the control of narcotic drugs of 25 May 2011 (OCStup; RS 812.121.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20101221/index.html>) lay down the procedures for the granting of import (and export) authorizations.

The authorization system is maintained under federal laws. The Government does not have the authority to repeal them. The Government may, however, change certain details of the regime, i.e. the above-mentioned Ordinances. There is no delegation of authority to the administration. There is, however, a limited delegation of authority to the Federal Department of the Interior (DFI), because Ordinance 812.121.11 of 30 May 2011 (<https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20101220/index.html>), which includes lists of all controlled substances that are subject to the permit system, is under the authority of the DFI.

Procedures

6.I. The quantities that can be imported (and exported) are limited through a system of estimates coordinated by the UN and its International Narcotics Control Board (INCB). Each country must report its annual needs in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to the INCB. If need be, requests for adaptations of the estimates may be submitted to the INCB, which approves them if they are legitimate. The INCB publishes the estimates for all of the countries, and updates them on a monthly basis.

- II. The estimates are sent once a year (for psychotropic substances once every three years) to the INCB. Import (and export) authorizations are issued only if the estimates have not been exceeded. Where they have been exceeded, a request for an additional estimate must be forwarded to the INCB.
 - III. Import or export authorizations are granted only to holders of a cantonal or a Swissmedic authorization to handle controlled substances or a special OFSP authorization.
 - IV. There is no time limit for the submission of applications provided the import or export quantities do not exceed the estimates.
 - V. The time required for granting an import (or export) authorization is ten working days on average, assuming that all of the documentation and other requirements have been met. Where there is no estimate or the estimate is insufficient (a few cases each year), the time limits are extended to as much as one month.
 - VI. Import authorizations are valid from the date of issue.
 - VII. As a rule, only Swissmedic considers authorization applications. If need be, Swissmedic cooperates with the cantons or the foreign competent authorities concerned, and the INCB.
 - VIII. Applications are considered in the order in which they are received by the Swissmedic service. If an authorization application is not complete or contains errors, Swissmedic informs the applicant by means of a form indicating the deficiencies in the application.
 - IX. An import authorization is required for every import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. Import/export authorizations are only issued upon request.
 - X. The importing country is informed of any export authorization granted by receiving a copy of the authorization.
 - XI. No.
7. Not applicable.
8. Any irregularities, no proven legitimate end use and so on. In the event of a refusal to issue an authorization, the reasons for refusal are given to the applicant, who has the right to appeal within 30 days to the Federal Department of the Interior.

Eligibility of importers to apply for authorization

9. All persons, firms and institutions may apply for an authorization provided they are holders of a cantonal, DFI or Swissmedic authorization to handle controlled substances or a special OFSP authorization. Swissmedic publishes the lists of persons, firms and institutions authorized by the cantons in accordance with the OCStup criteria.

Documentational and other requirements for application for authorization

10. The importer sends an application for an import authorization, either written or via the NDS WEB system, listing the products to be imported and the corresponding quantities. A specific form is available on the relevant website.
11. A copy of the authorization issued by Swissmedic must be presented to Customs.
12. CHF 100 for a single authorization; CHF 200 for a general authorization (the total quantity to be imported/exported must be indicated in the application for authorization).
13. No.

Conditions of authorization

14. Single import authorizations are valid for four months. General import authorizations are valid for 12 months and expire on 31 December of each calendar year.

15. No.

16. Import authorizations are not transferable.

17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

9 COMPULSORY STOCKPILING

9.1 Agricultural goods subject to compulsory stockpiling

Outline of system

1. In accordance with Article 7 of the Federal Law on National Economic Supply (LAP; RS 531), the Government (Federal Council) may subject goods of vital importance to compulsory stockpiling. To that end, it may place the products concerned under the automatic import licensing regime. The granting of a licence is conditional upon the conclusion of a stockpiling contract or the provision of a financial benefit identical to that arising under a compulsory stockpiling contract.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The following agricultural goods are subject to compulsory stockpiling: sugar, rice, edible oils and fats, coffee, various kinds of cereal, and energy-rich and protein-rich foods for use in animal feed (*Réservesuisse Genossenschaft*⁴). These goods appear in Annexes 1 to 5 of the Ordinance on compulsory stockpiling of foods and fodder and are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

0505.90	0712.90	0713.34	0713.90	0714.90	0813.50
0508.00	0713.10	0713.35	0714.10	0802.21	0901.11
0511.91	0713.20	0713.39	0714.20	0802.22	0901.12
0511.99	0713.31	0713.40	0714.30	0802.31	0901.21
0708.90	0713.32	0713.50	0714.40	0802.32	0901.22
0709.99	0713.33	0713.60	0714.50	0813.40	0901.90
1001.19	1104.23	1207.50	1504.30	1515.30	2302.40
1001.99	1104.29	1207.60	1505.00	1515.50	2302.50
1002.90	1104.30	1207.70	1506.00	1515.90	2303.10
1003.90	1105.10	1207.91	1507.10	1516.10	2303.20
1004.90	1105.20	1207.99	1507.90	1516.20	2303.30
1005.90	1106.10	1208.10	1508.10	1517.10	2304.00
1006.10	1106.20	1208.90	1508.90	1517.90	2305.00
1006.20	1106.30	1209.10	1509.10	1518.00	2306.10
1006.30	1107.10	1209.29	1509.90	1701.12	2306.20
1006.40	1107.20	1209.99	1510.00	1701.13	2306.30
1007.90	1108.11	1212.29	1511.10	1701.14	2306.41
1008.10	1108.12	1212.91	1511.90	1701.99	2306.49
1008.29	1108.13	1212.92	1512.11	1702.30	2306.50
1008.30	1108.14	1212.93	1512.19	1702.40	2306.60
1008.40	1108.19	1212.94	1512.21	1702.60	2306.90
1008.50	1108.20	1212.99	1512.29	1702.90	2308.00
1008.60	1201.90	1213.00	1513.11	1703.90	2309.90

⁴ Additional information in French, German and Italian available at: <http://www.reservesuisse.ch>.

1008.90	1202.41	1214.10	1513.19	1802.00	3505.10
1101.00	1202.42	1214.90	1513.21	1905.90	3505.20
1102.20	1203.00	1404.90	1513.29	2101.11	3809.10
1102.90	1204.00	1501.10	1514.11	2101.12	3823.11
1103.11	1205.10	1501.20	1514.19	2102.10	3823.12
1103.13	1205.90	1501.90	1514.91	2102.20	3823.19
1103.19	1206.00	1502.10	1514.99	2103.30	
1103.20	1207.10	1502.90	1515.11	2301.10	
1104.12	1207.29	1503.00	1515.19	2301.20	
1104.19	1207.30	1504.10	1515.21	2302.10	
1104.22	1207.40	1504.20	1515.29	2302.30	

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.
4. No restrictions. The purpose of automatic licensing is to ensure compulsory stockpiling.
5. Legal bases: The Federal Law on National Economic Supply (RS 531, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20141710/index.html>) as well as the Ordinance on compulsory stockpiling of foods and fodder (RS 531.215.11, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20170050/index.html>).
- Procedures**
6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a)-(b) Applications for a general import licence must be submitted a few days before importation. In urgent cases, the licence may be granted immediately by fax.
- (c) No.
- (d) Applications are handled by a single service: *Réservesuisse Genossenschaft* grants general import licences under the authority of the Swiss Confederation.
8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the *Réservesuisse Genossenschaft* website: (<http://www.reservesuisse.ch/index.php?id=8&L=1&type=2012>).
11. The number of the automatic licence. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).
12. No fees.
13. As a rule, no.
- Conditions of licensing**
14. The validity is not limited as long as the conditions on which the licence was granted are met.
15. No.
16. The licences are not transferable between eligible persons.

17.(b) The issuing of the licence is subject to the payment of the portions of the customs duty that are not collected by the Federal Customs Administration.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

9.2 Liquid fuels subject to compulsory stockpiling

Outline of system

1. In accordance with Article 7 of the Federal Law on National Economic Supply (LAP; RS 531), the Government (Federal Council) may subject goods of vital importance to compulsory stockpiling. To that end, it may place the products concerned under the automatic import licensing regime. The granting of a licence is conditional upon the conclusion of a stockpiling contract or the provision of a financial benefit identical to that arising under a compulsory stockpiling contract.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The liquid fuels subject to compulsory stockpiling appear in Annexes 1 to 5 of the Ordinance on compulsory stockpiling of foods and fodder and are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

2207.10	2707.99	2902.11	2902.60	2905.22	2909.50
2207.20	2709.00	2902.19	2902.70	2905.29	2909.60
2707.10	2710.12	2902.20	2902.90	2909.19	3807.00
2707.20	2710.19	2902.30	2905.11	2909.20	3811.90
2707.30	2710.20	2902.41	2905.12	2909.30	3814.00
2707.40	2901.10	2902.42	2905.14	2909.43	3817.00
2707.50	2901.24	2902.43	2905.16	2909.44	3824.99
2707.91	2901.29	2902.44	2905.19	2909.49	3826.00

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.

4. No restrictions. The purpose of automatic licensing is to ensure compulsory stockpiling.

5. Legal bases: The Federal Law on National Economic Supply (RS 531, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20141710/index.html>) and the Ordinance on compulsory stockpiling of liquid fuels (RS 531.215.41, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20170059/index.html>).

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a)-(b) Applications for a general import licence must be submitted a few days before importation. In urgent cases, the licence may be granted immediately by fax.

(c) No.

(d) Applications are handled by a single service: the Swiss Central Office for the Importation of Liquid Fuels, CARBURA, under the authority of the Swiss Confederation.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required. Samples of the various application forms are available on the website of the Swiss Central Office for the Importation of Liquid Fuels (<http://www.carbura.ch/fr/permis-generaux-dimportation-pgi/>).

11. Automatic licensing. All other import requirements are noted in the working tariff (<https://www.tares.ch>).

12. No fees.

13. As a rule, no.

Conditions of licensing

14. The validity is not limited as long as the conditions on which the licence was granted are met.

15. No.

16. The licences are not transferable between eligible persons.

17.(b) The issuing of the licence is subject to the payment of the portions of the customs duty that are not collected by the Federal Customs Administration.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

10 WAR MATERIAL, WEAPONS

10.1 War material

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the regime is to institute controls on the origin, nature and destination of the war material in question. The Bilateral Economic Relations Division, Arms Control and Arms Control Policy Section, of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO, <https://www.seco.admin.ch>) is responsible for examining applications for authorization.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The war material the import of which is subject to authorization is listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on war material (RS 514.511). These goods are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017)⁵:

2914.79	8409.99	8536.50	8708.50	8802.12	9031.80
2926.90	8411.11	8536.90	8708.70	8802.20	9031.90
2934.99	8411.12	8537.10	8708.80	8802.30	9301.10
3601.00	8411.91	8538.10	8708.91	8802.40	9301.20
3602.00	8412.10	8538.90	8708.92	8802.60	9301.90
3603.00	8412.90	8543.70	8708.93	8803.10	9305.91
3604.90	8501.34	8543.90	8708.94	8803.20	9305.99
3606.90	8501.53	8605.00	8708.95	8803.30	9306.30

⁵ Coverage is not defined in terms of customs tariff numbers in the relevant legal texts. The list of customs tariff numbers is therefore not exhaustive.

3824.85	8503.00	8607.99	8708.99	8803.90	9306.90
3824.86	8517.70	8705.90	8710.00	8805.10	
3824.87	8526.10	8706.00	8716.31	8906.10	
3824.88	8526.91	8707.90	8716.39	9013.10	
3824.91	8526.92	8708.29	8716.40	9013.20	
3824.99	8529.10	8708.30	8716.90	9013.80	
8408.10	8529.90	8708.40	8802.11	9013.90	

3. All countries.

4. There are no restrictions on quantity or value. The purpose of the regime is to institute controls on the origin, nature and destination of the war material in question.

5. The regime of authorizations for the import of war material is laid down in Article 107, paragraph 2, of the Federal Constitution (RS 101, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19995395/index.html>). Thus, the Government does not have the authority to abolish it. The products subject to this regime are listed in Annex 1 to the Ordinance on war material, which is a governmental text. Importation of war material is subject to the authorization regime laid down in the Federal Law on War Material of 13 December 1996 (RS 514.51, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19960753/index.html>) and the Ordinance on war material of 25 February 1998 (RS 514.511, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19980112/index.html>). The Law and the Ordinance do not apply to imports of war material for the Swiss Army; other exceptions are mentioned in Article 17(4) of the Law.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a)-(b) There are no standards required by the Law or the Ordinance. However, it is recommended that applications for authorization should be submitted at least seven days in advance of the scheduled date of importation. In exceptional cases, applications may be processed in a shorter period.

(c) No.

(d) A single body (the Bilateral Economic Relations Division, Arms Control and Arms Control Policy Section, of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, under the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research [DEFR]) is responsible for examining applications for authorization.

8. Authorizations are not granted if they are contrary to international law or if they are not in the interests of Switzerland. Refusals have to be announced in a decision that contains the reasons for the denial. The right to appeal is guaranteed by the federal law on procedures.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any person, firm or institution is eligible to apply for an import licence. Prior registration via the electronic authorization system on the website <http://www.elic.admin.ch> is, however, required.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Applications for import authorizations must contain the name and address of the supplier and of the importer/applicant, a precise description of the war material, the quantity and value, the tariff item number and the category (in accordance with the list in Annex 1 to the Ordinance), the exporting country and (if possible) the scheduled date of importation.

11. No document other than the import application is required.
12. 0.8% of the value of the imported goods, but at least CHF 50 and at the most CHF 5,000 per licence.
13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The import authorization is valid for one year. It is possible to obtain one extension of six months.
- 15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.
19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

10.2 Chemical weapons

Outline of system

1. Imports of chemicals covered by Schedule 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC) are subject to an import licence. The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO, <https://www.seco.admin.ch>) is responsible for examining licence applications.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The chemicals that are subject to import licensing are listed on Schedules 1A and 1B of the Annex to the Ordinance on the control of chemical products used for civilian and military purposes (OCPCh, RS 946.202.21, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121582/index.html>) and reflect the commitments undertaken by Switzerland under the CWC. The corresponding Swiss customs tariff numbers are not available.

3. The importation of chemicals listed on Schedules 1A and 1B (OCPCh) from States parties to the CWC is subject to import licensing. The importation of such chemicals from States not party to the CWC is prohibited.

4. The purpose of the regime is to prevent the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons.

5. The Federal Law on the control of goods used for civilian and military purposes and specific military goods (RS 946.202, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19960740/index.html>) of 13 December 1996, and the Ordinance on the control of chemical products used for civilian and military purposes (OCPCh; RS 946.202.21, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20121582/index.html>) of 21 August 2013. Switzerland has signed the internationally binding CWC and is therefore obliged to comply with the provisions of this Convention. The products subject to this regime are listed in the Annex to the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (DEFR) on the control of chemical products used for civilian and military purposes (OCPCh).

Procedures

6. The total amount of chemicals imported into Switzerland annually must never exceed one tonne (see OCPCh, Article 12). Each importer has to notify the Government of the total amount of imported Schedule 1 chemicals. This has to be done at the latest 60 days following the end of a calendar year.

7.(a)-(b) Applications for authorizations must be submitted at least 40 days in advance of the scheduled date of importation. In the relevant Ordinance there are no exceptions foreseen for a shorter period. Licences are granted on a case-by-case basis.

(c) No.

(d) The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO: <https://www.seco.admin.ch/seco/fr/home.html>), Division of export controls and sanctions, industrial products, is responsible for examining licence applications.

8. Licences are only granted if the purpose of the importation is not contrary to the provisions of the CWC.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any person, firm or institution is eligible to apply for an import licence. They must, however, first register with the electronic licensing system via the site <https://www.elic.admin.ch/elic/ext/?login>.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Applications for import authorizations must contain the name and address of the supplier and the importer and applicant, the chemical name and structural formula of the product and its Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) registry number, the quantity, the country of origin, the shipping country, and the scheduled date of importation. The following documents must be presented: official application form, invoice, a detailed description with regard to the end use of the chemicals, and an undertaking that the chemicals will be used exclusively for research, medical, pharmaceutical or protective purposes in accordance with the provisions of the CWC.

11. Import licence.

12. There is no licensing fee or administrative charge.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The import authorization is valid for two years. However, this time frame can be extended for a further two year period.

15. No.

16. No, the permit is not transferable.

17. The importer has to notify the Government of the total amount of Schedule 1A and Schedule 1B chemicals imported during the previous year. This has to be done at the latest 60 days following the end of a calendar year.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

10.3 Weapons, their accessories and ammunition

Outline of system

1. The main purpose of the entry regulations is to prevent illegal traffic in weapons, integral parts of weapons, etc. The competent authority for the issue of authorizations is the Central Office for Arms, attached to the Federal Office of Police (Federal Department of Justice and Police⁶).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. All objects which are considered weapons, integral parts of weapons, specially designed parts of weapons or accessories to weapons, ammunition and parts of ammunition in accordance with Articles 1 to 8 of the Weapons Ordinance are subject to this authorization regime (OArm, RS 514.541, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20081148/index.html>). These objects are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017)⁷:

3601.00	8211.92	9301.20	9303.30	9305.91	9503.00
3603.00	8211.93	9301.90	9303.90	9306.21	9705.00
7326.90	9013.10	9302.00	9304.00	9306.29	9706.00
7419.99	9013.20	9303.10	9305.10	9306.30	
8211.10	9013.80	9303.20	9305.20	9307.00	

3. These provisions apply irrespective of the country such goods come from.

4. No restrictions on quantity or value. The main purpose of the entry regulations is to prevent illegal traffic in weapons, integral parts of weapons, etc.

5. The Federal Law on Weapons, Accessories and Ammunition (Weapons Act, RS 514.54, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19983208/index.html>) and the Ordinance on weapons, accessories and ammunition (Weapons Ordinance, OArm, RS 514.541, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20081148/index.html>) stipulate which objects are subject to authorization, which annexes must be submitted with the application for authorization to enter weapons and which tasks the administration must undertake. The Weapons Ordinance may be amended by the Executive, but only in the framework of the Weapons Act. Articles 25(3) and 25(a)(3) of the Weapons Act state that the Executive may provide for derogations to the authorization regime in respect of certain objects and certain categories of person. To this end, the Executive introduced new rules under Article 40(3) of the OArm for hunters and sports shooters and under Article 42 of the OArm for different categories of person.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) Licence applications must be submitted before entry.

(b) They may be granted immediately if the conditions so warrant.

(c) The general authorization for weapons for professional purposes, whereby an unlimited number of weapons may be introduced, is valid for a period of 12 months (Article 38(3) OArm). Licences for the entry for non-professional purposes of prohibited weapons subject to authorization or subject to declaration are valid for a period of six months, extendable by no more than three months (Article 39(2) OArm).

(d) Pursuant to Article 24(3) and Article 25(2) of the Weapons Act, the Central Office for Arms issues authorizations for the entry for commercial purposes of integral parts of weapons, specially designed parts of weapons, ammunition and parts of ammunition.

⁶ Additional information is available at: <http://www.fedpol.admin.ch/fedpol/fr/home/themen/sicherheit/waffen.html> (in French, German and Italian only).

⁷ Coverage is not defined in terms of customs tariff numbers in the relevant legal texts. The list of customs tariff numbers is therefore not exhaustive.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Applicants for a licence to enter weapons, etc. for professional purposes are required to complete an official form and file it, together with a photocopy of their weapons trading licence, to the Central Office for Arms (Articles 36-38 OArm):

- (a) a copy of the authorization issued by the competent cantonal authority if the object to be introduced into Swiss territory is subject to the authorization regime;
- (b) an extract from the Swiss register of convictions issued not more than three months prior to the filing of the application;
- (c) a copy of a valid passport or identity card;
- (d) an official certificate from their State of domicile or their country of origin authorizing them to purchase a weapon in the case of persons domiciled abroad or persons not in possession of a residence permit.

Applicants for a licence to enter prohibited weapons under Article 5(1) of the LArm and Article 35(1) of the OArm for non-professional purposes are required to complete an official form and file it with the Central Office for Arms. The following documents must be attached:

- (a) a special cantonal authorization under Article 5(4) of the LArm;
- (b) a copy of a valid passport or identity card.

In order to obtain a licence to enter prohibited weapons, etc. for professional purposes (Article 5(1) LArm and Article 34 OArm), the relevant form must be submitted to the Central Office for Arms (OCA), accompanied by the following documents:

- (a) a copy of the weapons trading licence;
- (b) a special cantonal authorization, in accordance with Article 5(4) of the LArm;
- (c) an attestation that the objects are necessary to cover the needs of the Army, the military authorities or the customs and police authorities or those of security firms, and that the persons making the order have a special authorization for those objects.

11. No further documents are required upon actual entry.

12. The licensing fees are:

- CHF 50 for entry for professional purposes under a single authorization (Annex I(k) OArm);
- CHF 150 for entry for professional purposes under a general authorization (Annex I(n) OArm);
- CHF 50 for entry for non-professional purposes (Annex I(o) OArm);
- CHF 20 to 150 for special authorization for entry into Swiss territory (Annex I(c)1-8 OArm);
- CHF 20 for extensions of authorizations (Annex I(l) and (p) OArm);
- CHF 20 to 150 for special authorization for entry into Swiss territory (Annex I(c)1-8 OArm).

13. Fees up to CHF 1,000 may be charged in advance or against reimbursement (Article 57 OArm). The law does not require a deposit.

Conditions of licensing

14. A single authorization for entering a single consignment of weapons for professional purposes is valid for six months. The competent authority may extend its validity for no more than three months (Article 36(3) OArm).

General authorizations for the entry of weapons, etc. for professional purposes are valid for 12 months (Article 37(3) OArm). Upon expiration, a new licence may be applied for.

Licences for the entry for non-professional purposes of prohibited weapons, etc. subject to authorization or subject to declaration are valid for six months, extendable by no more than three months (Article 39(3) OArm).

Upon expiration, a new licence may be applied for.

15. Holders of a licence are free to make use of the licence, or a portion of it, as they see fit. There is no penalty for the non-utilization of a licence.

16. Entry licences are made out to the holder and are not transferable.

17. No further restrictions.

Other procedural requirements

18. No further restrictions.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

11 EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS AND PYROTECHNIC DEVICES FOR CIVILIAN USE

Outline of system

1. The import licensing procedure is needed to guarantee public safety in Switzerland in the area of explosive materials and pyrotechnic devices for civilian use. The competent authority for issuing authorizations is the Central Office for Explosive Materials, under the Federal Office of Police (fedpol) (https://www.fedpol.admin.ch/fedpol/fr/home/sicherheit/sprengstoff_pyrotechnik.html).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Articles 2 to 7 of the Ordinance on explosive substances of 27 November 2000 (RS 941.411, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20002454/index.html>) define the explosives and pyrotechnic devices that are subject to import authorization. These goods are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017)⁸:

2829.90	2850.00	2921.44	2929.90	3603.00	9306.30
2842.90	2852.10	2922.29	2933.69	3604.10	9503.00
2843.29	2904.20	2924.29	2933.99	3604.90	9505.90
2843.30	2908.99	2925.29	3601.00	3813.00	
2843.90	2920.90	2927.00	3602.00	3912.20	

3. All countries.

4. No restrictions on quantity or value. The import licensing procedure is needed to guarantee public safety in Switzerland in the area in question.

5. The Federal Law on Explosive Substances of 25 March 1977 (RS 941.41, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19770064/index.html>) and the Ordinance on explosive substances of 27 November 2000 (RS 941.411, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20002454/index.html>) govern the importation of explosives and pyrotechnic devices. The above statutory provisions govern the import licensing procedure. The Government cannot repeal these provisions. However, Article 24(3) of the Ordinance provides that the Federal Department of Justice and Police may exempt certain pyrotechnic devices from the requirement of authorization, provided that these devices are an integral part of articles which themselves are subject to a recognized licensing procedure (e.g. pyrotechnic propellant charges as used in air bag units of cars).

⁸ Coverage is not defined in terms of customs tariff numbers in the relevant legal texts. The list of customs tariff numbers is therefore not exhaustive.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).
- 7.(a) Licences for the importation of standard explosives and pyrotechnic devices are granted within a few days. The procedure for the licensing of articles which are subject to prior approval procedures may take up to six months.
- (b) By way of exception, a licence may be granted by telephone and without delay.
- (c) No.
- (d) Applications for import licences are dealt with by a single administrative body: Central Office for Explosive Materials, under the Federal Office of Police (fedpol) (https://www.fedpol.admin.ch/fedpol/fr/home/sicherheit/sprengstoff_pyrotechnik.html).
8. There are no reasons to refuse a licence application other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Any person, firm or institution is eligible to apply for a licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Only the usual information is required for the applications: applicant's name and address; type and quantity of the product to be imported and chemical composition; manufacturer's or importer's name; warehouse of destination in Switzerland.
11. Import licence.
12. Depending on the time required to process the application, the licensing fees may range from CHF 50 to CHF 1,000.
13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. Import authorization is valid for three months. It is possible to obtain two extensions of three months each.
- 15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.
19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

12 NUCLEAR FUEL, DEBRIS AND WASTE

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the regime is to institute controls on the source, nature and destination of nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities within the framework of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and bilateral cooperation agreements. Applications for authorization are examined by the Federal Energy Office (which has the authority to grant the licence) and the Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (responsible for the transport of class 7 dangerous goods).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. An authorization is required for nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities. This concerns the following Swiss customs tariff numbers (HS 2017):

2844.10; 844.20; 2844.30; 2844.50; 8401.30.

3. No restrictions except as provided in the law.

4. No restrictions on quantity or value. The purpose of the regime is to institute controls on the source, nature and destination of nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities within the framework of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and bilateral cooperation agreements.

5. The importation of nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities is subject to an authorization regime under the Law on Nuclear Energy of 21 March 2003 (LEnu; RS 732.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20010233/index.html>) and the Ordinance of 10 December 2004 on nuclear energy (OENU; RS 732.11, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20042217/index.html>).

The licensing regime is governed by federal laws, which the Government does not have the authority to repeal. The Government may, however, change certain details of the regime, i.e. the above-mentioned Ordinances. There is no delegation of authority to the administration.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no quantitative restrictions).

7.(a) The application for import must be submitted two months in advance of the scheduled importation date. In exceptional cases, the time limit may be shortened.

(b)-(c) No.

(d) Applications for authorization are examined by the Nuclear Law Section of the Federal Energy Office (which has the authority to grant the licence) and the Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (IFSN; responsible for the transport of class 7 dangerous goods). No list of authorized importers is published.

8. No other circumstances.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. All persons, firms and institutions meeting the requirements set forth in the relevant laws and ordinances are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. The information to be provided in applications is specified in a model form.

11. Import licence, container certificate and validation.

12. The fee is calculated in accordance with the time spent.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The import authorization is valid for a maximum of 12 months and may be extended for six months at most (at the authorization holder's request).

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. An authorization for heavy vehicles (more than 28 tonnes) could be required for road transport.
19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

13 RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Outline of system

1. The purpose of the regime is to verify the source, nature and destination of the radioactive materials subject to authorization. The authorizations are issued by the Federal Office for Public Health (OFSP, <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/fr/home.html>).

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. An import authorization is necessary for radioactive materials subject to authorization under the Ordinance of 26 April 2017 on radiation protection (ORaP; RS 814.501, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20163016/index.html>). These goods are classified under the following Swiss customs tariff numbers:

2844.10; 2844.20; 2844.30; 2844.40; 2844.50.

For small quantities, authorization holders in Switzerland often have a standing import authorization. For high-activity sources, a single authorization is required.

3. The regulations apply to imports of all goods, irrespective of where they come from.
4. No restrictions on quantity or value. The import authorization procedure is needed to guarantee public health and safety in Switzerland in the area in question.
5. The importation of radioactive materials other than nuclear fuel, debris and waste from nuclear facilities is subject to the authorization regime set forth in the Law on Radiation Protection of 22 March 1991 (LRaP; RS 814.50, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19910045/index.html>) and the Ordinance on radiation protection of 26 April 2017 (ORaP; RS 814.501, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20163016/index.html>).

The licensing regime is governed by federal laws, which the Government does not have the authority to repeal. The Government may, however, change certain details of the regime, i.e. the above-mentioned Ordinances.

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no restrictions).
- 7.(a) Applications for import authorization must be submitted to the OFSP at least three weeks prior to importation. In exceptional cases, the time limit may be shortened.
 - (b) No.
 - (c) No.
 - (d) The OFSP issues authorizations and provides oversight in the areas of medicine, research and industry. With respect to industry, the Swiss National Accident Insurance Fund (Suva) is consulted before an authorization is issued and provides the oversight.
8. There are no reasons to refuse a licence application other than failure to meet the specific criteria and requirements mentioned in the laws. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import authorization.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Information is requested about the destination of the radioactive materials and about the materials themselves. Additional information and the application forms are available on the OFSP website:

<https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/fr/home/gesetze-und-bewilligungen/gesuche-bewilligungen/bewilligungen-aufsicht-im-strahlenschutz/bewilligungsverfahren-gesuchsformulare-umgang-mit-ionisierender-strahlung.html>

11. The OFSP import authorization must be submitted to Customs upon importation. A customs declaration containing the following information is also requested:

- a precise description of the good;
- the radionuclides;
- the total activity per radionuclide (Bq);
- the authorization number of the consignee.

12. The charge for a single import authorization is 350 under the Ordinance of 26 April 2017 on fees charged in the area of radiation protection (OE-RaP; RS-814.56, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20163017/index.html>).

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. Single import authorizations are, in principle, valid for six months. For small quantities, a standing authorization, valid for ten years, may be issued. Authorizations may be extended upon request if the reasons for the request are provided.

15. No.

16. No.

17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. For high-activity sources, a request for consent under the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources (IAEA, Vienna 2012) must be submitted to the OFSP at least two weeks in advance. In addition, a notification indicating the exact date of importation must be submitted seven days prior to importation. There are no additional formalities for the other materials.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

14 REDUCTION OF RISKS RELATING TO THE USE OF CERTAIN PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, PREPARATIONS AND ARTICLES (MERCURY)

Outline of system

1. In order to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury, ratified by Switzerland on 25 May 2017, which seeks to establish measures aimed at regulating the supply and demand of mercury at international level, the legislation on chemical products was amended so as to introduce a control system for imports of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury alloys. These products can only be imported after import authorization has been issued. Certain exceptions to this rule may, however, apply where the products concerned are imported for research and development purposes.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The import licensing system concerns mercury (CAS No. 7439-97-6), preparations with a mercury content of 95% or more by mass, mercury alloys, and certain mercury compounds (customs tariff numbers 2805.4000, 2852.1010, 2852.1090 and 2852.9000).
3. The system applies regardless of where the goods originate/come from.
4. No restrictions on quantity or value. The purpose of the measure is to ensure compliance with the Minamata Convention.
5. The import system is maintained under the provisions of Annex 1.7 to the Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance (ORRChim, RS 814.81, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20021520/index.html>). The Government has the authority to modify the content of these provisions, in particular with regard to import restrictions, under the Law of 15 December 2000 on chemical products (LChim, RS 813.1, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19995887/index.html>) and the Law of 7 October 1983 on environmental protection (LPE, RS 814.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19830267/index.html>).

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no restrictions).
- 7.(a) In view of the time required by the competent authority to issue the licence (30 days from when all the required documentation is received), the application should be submitted at least one month in advance of the importation itself. In exceptional cases, a licence may be obtained in less time if all the required documentation (cf. 10) is present.
 - (b) No.
 - (c) No.
 - (d) Applications are considered by a single authority, the Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV, <https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/fr/home.html>).
8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. Applications for import authorizations must contain the name and address of the applicant, the name and address of the foreign exporter, the chemical name, tariff item number, intended use and anticipated amount of each substance and preparation to be imported, and confirmation by the importer that the substance or preparation to be imported is not intended for re-export. If the exporting country is not party to the Minamata Convention, written confirmation that the mercury does not come from either primary mercury mining or the chlorine-alkali industry is required.
11. The licence number must be transmitted to the customs authorities prior to importation and a copy of the import licence may be required upon actual importation.
12. Administrative fees, governed by the Ordinance of 18 May 2005 on fees with respect to chemical products (OEChim. RS 813.153.1), are charged according to the amount of time actually taken to process the application.
13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. Import licences are granted for a maximum of 12 months and cannot be extended (unless a new application is filed).

15.-17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.

15 TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF WASTES (BASEL CONVENTION)

Outline of system

1. As a State party to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and as a member country of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), Switzerland implements the relevant provisions through the Ordinance on the control of movements of wastes (OMoD, RS 814.610). This means that wastes may be imported only with the approval of the Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV, <https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/fr/home.html>) if the necessary conditions are met.

Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. The import of wastes requires the approval of the OFEV. The import of wastes for recovery is exempt from the approval requirement in the case of waste included in the OECD Council Decision's green list and Annex IX of the Basel Convention. Also exempt from this requirement are imports of waste samples from OECD and EU countries (OMoD Article 22).

3. Authorization is required regardless of the origin of the wastes. The importation of wastes is authorized only from States that have ratified the Basel Convention or States with whom an agreement has been reached. Given the OECD Council Decision, the exemptions and procedures are slightly different if the wastes come from an OECD member country.

4. The purpose of the controls is not to limit the quantity or value of the imports. Compliance with the Basel Convention, the OECD Council Decision and the OMoD, in particular the environmental compatibility of disposal, is critical.

5. The Law on environmental protection (LPE, RS 814.01, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19830267/index.html>) grants the Federal Council the authority to regulate cross-border transport of hazardous wastes and other wastes. The Law, together with the Ordinance on movements of wastes (OMoD, RS 814.610, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20021080/index.html>), implements and clarifies the requirements under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (RS 0.814.05, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19890050/index.html>) and OECD Council Decision C(2001)107/FINAL, a revision of Decision C(92)39/FINAL on the control of transboundary movements of wastes destined for recovery operations. (RS 0.814.052, <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/20091964/index.html>).

Procedures

6. Not applicable (no restrictions).

(7)(a) The processing period for applications for authorization is 30 days.

(b) No.

(c) No.

- (d) Generally, the application for importation of wastes is submitted to the authorities of the exporting country and sent by those authorities to the OFEV. In evaluating the application, the OFEV must take into account the views of the competent cantonal authority.

8. There are no reasons to refuse an application for a licence other than failure to meet the specific criteria. The reasons for any refusal are communicated to the applicant, who has a right to appeal the decision to the Federal Administrative Court and, at second instance, to the Federal Supreme Court.

Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. In principle, all persons, firms and institutions are eligible to apply for an import licence.

Documentational and other requirements for application for licence

10. A notification form completed in accordance with the Basel Convention, the OECD Council Decision or Regulation (EC) No. 1013/2006 must be submitted together with a written contract between the foreign exporter and the waste management firm in Switzerland.

11. When they cross the border, the wastes must be declared as such to the customs authority. A signed form in accordance with the Basel Convention, the OECD Council Decision or Regulation (EC) No. 1013/2006 and a copy of the OFEV's approval must be provided.

12. Administrative fees, governed by the Ordinance of 18 May 2005 on Federal Office for the Environment fees (OEmol-OFEV. RS 814.014), are charged according to the amount of time actually taken to process the application. The base fee for a notification is CHF 700.

13. No.

Conditions of licensing

14. The OFEV limits its approval to one year at the most. It may give approval for a maximum period of three years to waste disposal firms to which it has given prior approval consistent with the OECD Council Decision.

15. No.

16. No.

17. No.

Other procedural requirements

18. The consignee confirms to the exporter and the authorities involved that the disposal is carried out in a manner consistent with environmental requirements.

19. There are no restrictions on foreign exchange in force.
