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**Committee on Import Licensing**

Original: French

**REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES<sup>1</sup>****NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7.3 OF THE AGREEMENT ON  
IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES (2022)**

MALI

The following communication, dated 1 August 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mali.

**Outline of systems**

1. The import licensing system is governed by Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on the regulation of foreign trade, Implementing Order No. 09-788 of 7 April 2009, and Interministerial Order No. 2015-1535/MIC/MEF-SG of 15 June 2015 drawing up the list of prohibited imports and exports. The licensing system is administered by the Directorate-General of Trade, Consumer Affairs and Competition.

**Purposes and coverage of the licensing**

Trade is free with all countries and foreign trade is governed by the following two regimes:

2.(a) The licensing procedure relates to the free trade regime provided for in Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on the regulation of foreign trade. It covers Article 5:

- goods to be released for consumption on the domestic market either as a result of a direct importation from abroad or a regime providing for conditional relief from customs duties and taxes;
- vehicles for the transport of persons and goods;
- goods released from warehouses or any other regime providing for conditional relief from customs duties and taxes.

The following goods, effects or commodities are not subject to the licensing procedure in accordance with Article 6 of Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on the regulation of foreign trade:

- goods that have been abandoned at customs and have become state property;
- animals such as dogs and cats accompanying their owners;
- fuel contained in vehicle tanks or in cans, canisters or other containers up to a maximum limit of 100 litres per vehicle;
- packages imported or exported full;
- commercial samples with a value below a threshold established in an order issued by the Minister of Finance;
- clothing and personal effects clearly not intended for commercial purposes, imported or exported by travellers in their luggage and admitted or exempted under the Customs Code;

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<sup>1</sup> See document G/LIC/3, Annex, for the questionnaire.

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- consignments by post or courier of a non-commercial nature and weighing less than or equal to 20 kg, with a value not exceeding a threshold established in an order issued by the Minister of Finance;
  - consignments sent to national or international charities;
  - goods, property and effects, seized and sold by state administrations;
  - furniture with visible signs of use imported as a result of relocation or inheritance;
  - agricultural or industrial equipment with visible signs of use imported as a result of relocation and business transfers;
  - original works of art imported by their authors;
  - transhumance of animals going to or coming from grazing land subject to the completion of the formalities provided for in customs regulations;
  - spare parts supplied free of charge under a guarantee contract, the value of which is below a threshold established in an order issued by the Minister of Finance;
  - articles or effects admitted free of duty for members of the diplomatic corps or the like, effects or property exported under the same privileges;
  - wedding trousseaux and school outfits;
  - bank notes;
  - postage and revenue stamps;
  - any goods of a non-commercial nature with a value not exceeding a threshold established in an order issued by the Minister of Finance.

(b) Other products provided for in Interministerial Order No. 2015-1535/MCI/MEF-SG of 15 June 2015 drawing up the list of products prohibited from importation are subject to the licensing procedure. These include:

Authorization from the Ministry of Health:

- medicines for human use;
- medicines for veterinary use: joint authorization from the ministries responsible for health and for livestock;
- food additives: list to be drawn up by the Ministry of Health;
- cyanide: authorization from the ministry responsible for mining or the Ministry of Health.

Authorization from the Ministry of Trade:

- non-iodized salt not intended for human consumption;
- cigarettes, tobacco and other tobacco products.

Authorization from the Ministry of Transport:

- motor vehicles with a GVW of 3.5 tonnes or more: authorization from the relevant departments of the Ministry of Transport.

Authorization from the Ministry of the Environment:

- ozone-depleting substances: list to be drawn up by the Ministry of the Environment;
- dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT): authorization from the relevant departments of the Ministry of the Environment;

Authorization from the Ministry of Defence:

- arms and ammunition;
- explosives and detonation equipment: authorization from the Ministry of Defence and the relevant departments of the ministry responsible for mining;
- HF, VHF and UHF ground-to-air radios;
- radio-relay stations;
- satellite communication equipment;
- electronic and electromagnetic jamming systems;
- ground surveillance radars;
- air surveillance radars;
- direction-finding systems;

- fabrics, clothing and accessories for military use (fatigues and camouflage clothing);
- spare parts for military equipment;
- berets, hoods, hats, helmets, caps, kepis and other headgear for military use.

Authorization from the Ministry responsible for security:

- observation drones;
- electromagnetic wave capture systems;
- night-vision binoculars;
- laser rangefinders;
- metal detectors;
- single-cab and double-cab pick-up trucks with engines of six cylinders or more;
- portable magnetic detectors;
- demining kits;
- anti-fragmentation demining suits;
- electric and pyrotechnic detonators;
- detonating cords;
- safety fuses.

3. The system applies to products originating in and coming from all countries.

4. The importation of goods under the import licensing system is carried out without restriction on quantities and values. The purpose of the licensing procedure in Mali is to ensure the traceability and predictability of trade for better environmental protection and security management. It also provides economic, financial and trade information.

5.(i) The licensing system is regulated by regulatory or executive acts. The legislative framework includes: Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on the regulation of foreign trade and Implementing Order No. 09-788 of 7 April 2009, as well as Interministerial Order No. 2015-1535/MIC/MEF-SG of 15 June 2015 drawing up the list of prohibited imports and exports.

(ii) Yes, the Government may suspend or even abolish the system without legislative approval.

(iii) Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on the regulation of foreign trade, Implementing Order No. 09-788 of 7 April 2009, and Interministerial Order No. 2015-1535/MIC/MEF-SG of 15 June 2015 drawing up the list of prohibited imports and exports have been published in the Official Journal of Mali.

## **Procedures**

6. No products are under restriction as to the quantity or value of imports.

- 7.(a) There is no time limit for the submission of applications for certificates of intention to import. However, the certificate must be established by the importer before the goods are shipped, for documentary inspection reasons.
- (b) Certificates of intention to import are issued automatically within 24 hours of the application being filed and, in all cases, certificates of intention to import are issued automatically provided that the importer meets the necessary conditions.
- (c) There is no particular period of the year for the submission of applications for certificates of intention to import. Applications for certificates of intention to import may be submitted at any time of year.
- (d) Importers may approach either the Directorate-General of Trade, Consumer Affairs and Competition (Single Window for Foreign Trade) or its regional representative offices.

8. Reasons for refusal are stated directly on the application filed by the applicant. In the event of a refusal, the applicant is free to appeal the decision before any competent body, notably the Trade Tribunal.

### **Eligibility of importers to apply for a licence**

9. Only approved natural or legal persons (in other words, those meeting the requirements under current regulations in this area, namely registration on the Trade and Personal Property Credit Register and possession of a valid import-export trading licence and a tax identification number) are authorized to engage in import operations.

### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. A sample application form for certificates of intention to import is available from the Single Window and regional representative offices. Applicants must attach a pro forma invoice to their application.

Other documents to be provided:

- transit of cattle and importation of live animals other than bovine animals: presentation of an animal health certificate;
- reproductive seeds: registration in the official national catalogue of the importing country and presentation of an animal health certificate;
- plants: presentation of a permit or a phytosanitary certificate of origin;
- plant seeds: presentation of a permit or certificate of origin;
- meat other than that of bovine animals and game: presentation of a permit or health certificate from the country of origin.

11. The documents required upon actual importation are:

- certificate of intention to import;
- declaration of release for consumption;
- a definitive invoice or bill of lading/airway bill;
- a preshipment inspection certificate from the inspection company in cases where the f.o.b. value of the goods is CFAF 3,000,000 or more.

12. The importer pays 0.75% of the f.o.b. value as a contribution to the Import Inspection Programme.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required for the issue of a certificate of intention to import.

### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The period of validity of a certificate of intention to import is twelve months from the date on which it is registered with the Directorate-General of Trade, Consumer Affairs and Competition. It may be extended for six extra months at the importer's request. All extension requests must be submitted to the Directorate-General of Trade, Consumer Affairs and Competition before the expiry of the original period of validity. The certificate of intention to import may only be extended once. However, a special extension of a maximum period of one month may be granted to allow for financial transfers to suppliers.

15. There is no penalty for the non-utilization of the certificate of intention to import or a portion thereof.

16. Certificates of intention to import are personal and cannot be transferred.

17. No particular conditions are attached to the issue of a certificate of intention to import.

### **Other procedural requirements**

18. No administrative procedures are required prior to importation once the certificate of intention to import has been obtained.

19. For goods that are to be imported, foreign exchange is transferred from the client's bank to the supplier's bank (payment by bank transfer). Foreign exchange may be obtained without an import licence (certificate of intention to import) for other payments not concerning imported goods. Foreign exchange is always available for any licence (certificate of intention to import) issued. In order to obtain foreign exchange, it is necessary to contact a financial and/or banking institution and any authorized intermediary or the postal administration. This leads to the establishment of an "exchange authorization" form, which has to be endorsed by the intermediary responsible for payment.

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