



21 February 2014

(14-1100)

Page: 1/1

Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLES 1.4(A) AND 8.2(B) OF THE AGREEMENT ON  
IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES FROM BANGLADESH<sup>1</sup>**

**QUESTIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO BANGLADESH REGARDING THE  
GOVERNMENT'S IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES**

The following communication, dated 20 February 2014, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States.

---

On 30 May 2013, the United States submitted questions to Bangladesh about its import licensing procedures, in particular with respect to Bangladesh's requirements for the importation of medicines.

Furthermore, Bangladesh's last annual response to the "Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures" under Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures was circulated on 2 October 2007. Bangladesh's reply (G/LIC/N/3/BGD/4) to this "Questionnaire," (which is to be updated every year on 30 September) is 7 years old. When will Bangladesh provide a new Questionnaire response to the Import Licensing Committee as required by Article 7.3 of the Agreement?

In (G/LIC/Q/BGD/3), the United States had asked Bangladesh to provide a description of administrative procedures associated with a pharmaceuticals directive issued by the Prime Minister in 1998 which appears to prohibit importation of medicines that are produced in sufficient quantities within Bangladesh.

From Bangladesh's responses, the 1998 Directive remains in place and it appears to prohibit importation of medicines that are produced in sufficient quantities within Bangladesh. It would also appear from Bangladesh's responses that local producers are not required to adhere to any licensing requirement, beyond an import license, to sell imported medicines in the domestic market.

How are these import prohibitions consistent with the GATT 1994 so that the required import licenses for administering the prohibitions are consistent with Article 1.2 of the Import Licensing Procedures Agreement?

---

<sup>1</sup>G/LIC/N/1/BGD/1.