AGRICULTURE DOCUMENTATION
INVENTORY OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES

Variable Levies and Other Special Charges on Imports

Notified by:

JAPAN
Product: Beet sugar and cane sugar, solid (17.01)

Country or group maintaining measures: JAPAN

(a) Description:
Import levies on sugar

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

1. Japan imposes import levies on sugar under "Law on price stabilization of sugar".

   This measure is, in practice, a part of the price support policies for domestic sugar production. Japanese government fixes a target price for rationalization of domestic sugar production, a goal for production cost of domestic sugar, and in case where import price of sugar is below the target price the government imposes a fixed levy, the amount of which is calculated by multiplying the difference between the target and import prices by a fixed adjustment ratio.

2. In case where import price of sugar falls below the floor price of stabilization price range, which is established taking into consideration fluctuations in the world price of sugar, the difference between the prices is collected as a fund for stabilizing the price of domestic sugar; this positive difference is used to compensate negative difference occurring when the import price rises above the ceiling price of stabilization price range.

3. Therefore, this measure is taken for the purpose of easing domestic pressures resulting from changes in the world sugar price.

   And yet, the target price for rationalization of domestic sugar production is fixed by the government within the price stabilization range.

Reference:

June 1983