REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON LICENSING

IRELAND

Revision

1. Quota licensing

Annual total import quotas are prescribed for: (i) cycle tyres from non-OECD countries and Japan, and (ii) certain textile goods from sixteen low cost countries. Licences are granted in respect of types within the product range covered by the quota but for which suitable substitutes are not available from home manufacturers.

Surveillance

A system of national surveillance, within Community procedure was introduced in June 1975. It embraces sisal binder twine, certain clothing, textiles and footwear. Import documents are granted automatically on application.

2 and 3. Quota Originating in Goods

Certain pneumatic tyres and tubes for bicycles and tricycles (including both motor and pedal) (Quota No. 2)

- (A) Czechoslovakia and Poland (Council Decision No. 75/788/EEC of 18 December 1975)
- (B) Other non-OECD countries and Japan

Textile goods comprising certain yarns and made-up articles (Quota No. 51)

- (A) Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, People's Republic of China, Poland, Romania, USSR (Council Decision No. 75/788/EEC of 18 December 1975)

Textile goods comprising certain piece-goods (Quota No. 52)

- (B) Hong Kong, India, Japan, Macao, Malaysia, Pakistan, Taiwan (Formoso) and Yugoslavia.
Surveillance provides a monitoring of the origin of imports and enables those from Third countries via member States of the European Economic Community to be measured.

The present methods are considered to be the most suitable.

5. Quotas

Control of Imports Acts 1934 to 1964 under quota orders as set out above.

Surveillance

European Communities Act 1972 under Statutory Instruments as detailed above.

Licensing is required in both cases. Designation of products is not left to administrative discretion. Legislative approval would not be required to abolish either system.

Procedures

6. (a) Information as to the making of annual quota period orders is published in the "Iris Oifigiúil", the Official Gazette, and in the national daily newspapers. Copies of the orders are also circulated to embassies, trade delegations, legations, consulates, etc., regional Chambers of Commerce in Ireland and the Confederation of Irish Industries. Copies are also sent to the national and university libraries. The overall amount of each quota is published. The quotas are not allocated by country except in the case of the State-trading countries referred to at (a) in 2 and 3 ante. The amounts allocated to individual importers are not published.
(b) Quotas are determined on an annual basis; licences, issued on receipt of applications, are valid from date of issue up to the end of the quota period.

(c) Generally, licences are not issued to domestic producers of like goods. Because several large importers continually seek additions to their quota allocations it is not considered necessary to examine the usage of licences. Unused allocations are not added in a succeeding period. The names of registered importers to whom quota licences are granted are regarded as confidential and not supplied to parties outside the Department of Industry and Commerce.

**Quota 2**

This quota is a nominal one and is not allocated. However, supplementary licences are issued freely for the types not manufactured in Ireland. Applications are dealt with on receipt.

**Quota No. 51**

This quota is a nominal one and is not allocated. Supplementary licences are issued up to a limited value.

**Quota No. 52**

This quota is a nominal one and is not allocated. Supplementary licences for substantial quantities are issued freely for goods not now made in Ireland.

(d) As the three quotas extant are now nominal quotas, licensing is by way of supplementary licences. Thus arrangements for applications vary according to the needs of the occasion.

(e) Licences against the applications received are usually issued within a week but the issue may take two weeks. Licences are valid from date of issue.

(f) 

(g) Quota licence applications are considered by a single administrative organ. Importers are required to approach only one such organ.

(h) **Quota No. 2**

This is a nominal quota only but supplementary quota licences are issued on request for all motorcycle tyres and tubes and several sizes of cycle and tricycle tyres and tubes not manufactured in this country. These licences are additional to the basic quota and are (i) for specified amounts in
respect of State-trading countries named at (A) in 2 and 3 ante and (ii) for substantial amounts in respect of countries set out at (B) in 2 and 3 ante but excluding the remaining State-trading countries.

**Quota No. 51**

This quota is for a nominal value. Supplementary licences are issued for (i) specified values in respect of some of the State-trading countries named at (A) of 2 and 3 ante and (ii) limited value in respect of the countries shown at (B) of 2 and 3 ante.

**Quota No. 52**

This quota is a nominal one and supplementary licences are granted in respect of certain types of fabrics in which home production is not adequate and applications are dealt with on receipt. The amounts (i) for the State-trading countries specified at (A) of 2 and 3 ante are specified but (ii) for the countries specified at (B) of 2 and 3 ante the amounts are fairly substantial. New applicants are facilitated when they have completed a minimum period of trading, normally six months and all applicants receive similar treatment.

(i) The quotas are as set out at 2 and 3 ante and no separate bilateral quotas or export restraint arrangements are in operation.

(j) This does not arise.

(k) No.

7. (a) No time-limit.

(b) Yes.

(c) No limitation in respect of applications; importation must be effected within a period of three months, viz. the period of validity of the licence.

(d) One administrative organ.

8. None.

   **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9. (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.
Documentational and other requirements for licence applications

10. **Quota**

Evidence of despatch or arrival of goods. Certificate of purchases from Irish manufacturers, copy invoices and certificates of origin are sometimes necessary.

**Surveillance**

Usual information such as name and address of applicant; description and quantity of goods; country of origin and of purchase; c.i.f. price. Copy of invoices and certificates of origin are necessary.

11. Apart from the general documentation required to be furnished in connexion with the importation of any goods the only additional document required by the customs is the import licence covering the goods.

12. There is no licensing fee or administrative charge.

13. There is a refundable deposit requirement associated with Quotas Nos. 51 and 52. The deposit, equal to 10 per cent of the invoiced value of goods, is required where an importer wishes to have reserved a share in a quota and is intended to discourage frivolous applications.

No deposit or advance payment requirement exists in respect of surveillance.

**Conditions of licensing**

14. **Quota**

Normally twelve months - no extension of period.

**Surveillance**

Three months. Yes. On application.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilization of licence.

16. Licences are not transferable.
17. (a) Theoretically exhausted licences must be returned to the Department of Industry and Commerce when the quantity specified is imported or at the end of the quota period, whichever is the earlier, but it is administratively difficult to insist on compliance with this rule.

(b) No.

Other procedural requirements

18. No.

19. The Irish reply to this question in 1971 is still in order.