On 4 August 1958, on which date its Stabilization Programme was put into operation, the Turkish Government had introduced, for the purpose of controlling imports, a system of periodical global quotas. The regulations governing the country's imports were implemented, on the basis of those quotas, under Decree No. 3/10707 of 23 August 1958.

As from 23 September 1958, a number of improvements were introduced in this control system, as a result of experience gained from the operation of several successive import programmes. The present control system is based on a set of Foreign Trade Regulations enacted by Decree of the Council of Ministers No. 4/12414 of 21 November 1959 and the relevant instructions.

Under these regulations, imports into Turkey are authorized on the basis of four different categories or "lists" of commodities: (1) List of liberated products; (2) List of automatic allotments; (3) List of global quotas; (4) List of goods to be imported on credit.

In the case of commodities included in the liberated list, introduced as from 13 May 1959, these may be imported without any preliminary formalities whatsoever. Nearly the same holds true in respect of goods included in the list of automatic allotments, which came into force on 3 August 1959 as an adjunct to the liberated list. The only requisite, in order to be allowed to import goods included in the list of automatic allotments, is to obtain from the competent authorities shown on that same list a so-called certificate of requirement. Apart from this formality, which is intended to prevent speculative operations, there are no other stipulations, and upon application to any approved commercial bank, importers will immediately receive the necessary import certificates.
As for the list of global quotas, it entails, as the term implies, a distribution of available quotas proportionately to the requests submitted. In this instance also, in order to check speculative attempts and to preclude claims of discrimination from importers, it was found advisable to stipulate that in no case can any single request submitted by importers exceed 15 per cent of the total quota provided for each particular commodity.

The list of global quotas applies to the areas of the European Monetary Agreement and of free currencies (US dollars, free Swiss francs, sterling convertible to US dollars, transferable sterling and other currencies convertible to any of these). Imports from countries with which Turkey has entered into bilateral agreements are also governed by the provisions relating to global quotas. In the case of those countries, however, individual yearly quotas are provided within the global quotas, equivalent in each instance to the value of goods exported by Turkey.

The liberated list contains a large number of finished products including spare parts of all kinds, as well as several items coming under the headings of raw materials and agricultural produce.

Included in the list of automatic allocations are fuels, packing materials, a number of raw materials and auxiliary items, materials and equipment for industrial purposes and several other articles. The aggregate amount of products included in the liberated list and in the list of automatic allotments—the latter being, so to speak, a list of liberated goods "under control"—covers 54 per cent of total imports.

The following commodities are included in the list of global quotas: road transportation equipment and tractors, sheet metal, strip iron, wire, raw hides, crude rubber, plastic raw materials, chemical fertilizers, pharmaceutical preparations, and piston-type internal combustion engines.

The periodical import programmes are essentially designed to cover, according to their priority status, the most urgent needs of the country.

A. Restrictions on products subject to special measures

Owing to the general situation of the balance of payments and of the foreign currency budget, the following products, which are among those exported by Turkey, are subject to special import restrictions, with the exception of tea:

Fruit, dried and fresh
Cotton
Sugar; sugar beet
Cereals
Tobacco) Imports under State monopoly
Tea
Tea is included in the liberated list and may be imported by firms duly authorized by the Ministry of Customs and Monopolies. The other commodities listed above, which are produced domestically in sufficient volume and even exported, are not included in any of the Import Lists, and, therefore, may not be imported.

B. Other restrictions for the protection of agriculture

Owing to the essentially agricultural structure of her economy, Turkey is a traditional exporter of agricultural products. For this reason, a large number of farm products are not included in the Import Lists annexed to the Foreign Trade Regulations. As a rule, imports are limited to commodities which are not produced in the country or whose domestic production is not sufficient to meet the needs of the home market, such as tea, cocoa and coffee, for instance. Occasional imports of products other than those are authorized as may be required by crop or market conditions, such imports being determined and controlled by quotas. Imported products are treated on the same footing as domestic products and are not subjected to any discriminatory tax measures.

VII. PROVISIONS TENDING TO MAKE IT UNNECESSARY OR LESS NECESSARY TO RESORT TO NON-TARIFF MEASURES OF PROTECTION OR SUPPORT

Broadly speaking, the activities in the Turkish agricultural sector are guided by the following main objectives:

1. To produce in the country, in sufficient volume to meet the needs of a fast-growing population, all of the agricultural commodities suitable for domestic production;

2. To develop, through increased production, exports of agricultural products for which there is a traditional market abroad, with a view to earning foreign exchange needed for the general economic development of the country;

3. To promote an increase in productivity and a rational and economically sound development of farm production.

The means whereby these objectives are sought to be achieved may be summarized as follows:

- Research
- Dissemination of new methods
- Grants of financial assistance for the establishment of agricultural institutions and the purchase of agricultural machinery and implements
- Action against pests, land conservation and improvement measures, irrigation, and State co-operation with farmers in such measures
- Market organization
- Measures designed to improve productivity
As will be apparent from the above report, the long-term objective of the Turkish agricultural policy is to reach a stage where the agricultural sector will no longer require the application of protection and support measures other than tariff provisions.

Despite the fact that the structure of her economy is essentially agricultural, Turkey has endeavoured, for reasons of financial necessities, to keep the level of agricultural protection and support as low as possible, and it will be noted that, as a rule, practically no protection is afforded in the case of products which are not exported and are used solely for domestic consumption.