NEW ZEALAND LIBERALIZES IMPORTS OF PRODUCTS EXPORTED BY LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The New Zealand authorities have informed the GATT secretariat that the import licensing schedule for the year beginning 1 July 1965 was released on 30 March by the Minister of Customs. It provides for the exemption from licensing requirements of a wide range of raw materials and also introduces a further measure of flexibility in respect of commodities which remain under import control.

Ninety items formerly under import licensing have been added to the list of exempt items which now accounts for approximately one third of total expenditure on imports. New exempt items, many of which are of export interest to less-developed countries, include bananas, dried fruit, raw coffee, raw cocoa beans, jute fibres, certain medicinal and pharmaceutical products, cotton yarn, a wide range of textile piece-goods, wire netting, agricultural tractors, combine harvesters and hay balers, mineral waxes, processed cheese, unwrought lead, unrefined copper and copper powder, roller bearings.

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