NATIONALITY OF IMPORTED GOODS

Statements received from the Contracting Parties

Addendum

Contracting parties were asked, in document L/71 of 21 January 1953, to submit statements of their present principles and practices in determining the nationality of imported goods. The following information has been received from the Government of Burma.

BURMA

1. Purpose for which origin is required.

(a) Admission at differential rates of duty:

The Ottawa Trade Agreement, 1932, and the Indo-Burma Trade Agreement, 1941, having been terminated, goods imported into the Union of Burma are at present liable to duty at uniform rates or are exempt, irrespective of country of origin. Section 3 of the Tariff Act, 1953 empowers the President of the Union either to alter the rates of Customs duty imposed by the said Act in respect of, or to accord exemption to, any article or class of articles produced or manufactured in any country. The President of the Union has not exercised these powers so far. As such, it must be said that country of origin is at present not required to be established for the purpose of Customs duty.

(b) Admission under quantitative restrictions:

Import licences are generally granted in terms of currency areas without specifying the names of individual countries or origin or consignment. Holders of import licences are, therefore at liberty to import the goods originating in any country belonging to the currency area specified in import licences.

(c) Trade Statistics:

This country has adopted the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations, as required by which trade statistics are being maintained according to countries of origin.
(d) Merchandise Marks:

The main purpose of the requirement in this connection is to prevent goods being imported with false marks of origin.

(e) Other reasons:

Nil

2. Definition of Origin.

(a) All articles being either exempt from Customs or

(b) liable to customs duty at uniform rates, irrespective of country.

(c) Defining country of origin of goods has not arisen yet. Only when the President of the Union exercises his powers under Section 3 (1) of the Act, 1953, in respect of the produce or manufactures of any particular country or particular countries, to make rules under Section 3 (2) of the said Act for determining what constitutes country of origin in respect of any article or any class of articles.

3. Treatment of goods which have passed through one or more countries on the way to the country of origin.

The country of origin declared or marked on articles thereof is accepted, provided the Customs Collector is satisfied as to its correctness. It is material whether goods are consigned to this country direct from the country of origin or via other countries.


No certificate of origin is at present required to be produced in respect of any article or class of articles imported to the country. For all purposes, either the declaration in Customs documents or the marking on articles or the containers thereof is accepted, unless there is reason to believe that such declaration or marking is false.


No suggestion at the moment.