ARTICLE XII IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

Modification of the Restrictions applied by New Zealand

The following communication dated 17 January 1958, has been received from the Government of New Zealand:

"I have the honour to draw your attention to certain significant changes that have been made, as from 1 January 1958, in the policy and administration of the import restrictions maintained by New Zealand for balance-of-payments reasons.

"2. These changes are designed to halt the recent serious decline in New Zealand's overseas exchange reserves, to build them up to a safe working level, and to maintain them at that level.

"3. The three main steps taken are as follows:

(i) all existing licences to import goods in 1958 are revoked and importers must apply for a new licence (but see paragraphs 4 and 5 below);

(ii) all existing exemptions from licensing, whether 'global' or restricted to non-scheduled countries, are withdrawn except for a small number which have been in force since the original introduction of import licensing in 1938 (but see paragraphs 4 and 5 below);

(iii) the Import Licensing Schedule (or programme) for 1958 which was issued early in August 1957, has been withdrawn and replaced by a new Schedule.

"4. In accordance with the provisions of the Import Control Regulations 1938 the revocation of a licence does not apply to goods shipped from the country of export to New Zealand, prior to the date of revocation, for entry under that licence. The withdrawal of an exemption also does not apply to goods shipped from the country of export prior to the date of the withdrawal."
"5. Goods which were the subject of firm orders placed with, and accepted by, the overseas supplier before 1 January 1958, but which were not exported to New Zealand before that date, will be a charge against the new 1958 allocation but if necessary excess licenses will be issued to the extent that they exceed the value of such allocations.

"6. Under the new 1958 Licensing Schedule all imports (with the minor exceptions referred to above) require a licence, but extensive use has been made of a new 'A' category comprising goods for which licences will normally be granted to the full value applied for in respect of imports from non-scheduled countries.

"7. For other goods there are various categories as follows:

(i) licensed as a percentage of the value of previous 1958 licence held, less imports;

(ii) licensed as a percentage of the value of import licences held for 1957;

(iii) licensed as a percentage of the value of imports in 1956;

(iv) 'control' or individual consideration;

(v) no allocation.

"8. All basic allocations relate only to imports from non-scheduled countries, all imports from scheduled countries at present being subject to the individual consideration procedure.

"9. I enclose for your information copies of the following documents:

Radio talk by the Prime Minister on 1 January 1958
Radio talk by the Minister of Customs on 2 January 1958
Import Control Exemption Withdrawal Notice 1958
Import Licences Revocation Notice 1958
New Schedule of Import Licences for 1958."

---

1 A copy of these documents is on file at the secretariat. The New Schedule of Import Licences for 1958 has been published in the United Kingdom Board of Trade Journal (London) of 17 January 1958.