FIFTH BIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
AND OPERATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Basic Document by the Secretariat

At its meeting on 3 March 1989, the Committee agreed to hold the fifth biennial review, under Article 5.5 of the Agreement, in the autumn of 1989 (LIC/M/23, paragraph 26). It has since been agreed that the review will take place on 23 November 1989.

This document consolidates the information submitted by signatories on their import licensing procedures as well as on any action taken by them under the Agreement. It contains a systematic guide by way of references to data available to the Committee on 30 September 1989.
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1. COMPOSITION AND MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMPORT LICENSING

Chairperson: Mr. A.H. Mamdouh (Egypt) from March 1987 to March 1989
Mr. R. Molloy (Ireland) from March 1989

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. K. Leifland (Sweden) from March 1987 to March 1989
Mr. D. Shark (United States) from March 1989

Signatories

Argentina Hong Kong Poland
Australia Hungary Romania
Austria India Singapore
Canada Japan South Africa
Chile Mexico Sweden
Czechoslovakia New Zealand Switzerland
Egypt Nigeria United States
European Economic Community Norway Yugoslavia

Finland Pakistan

Observers

Bangladesh Ghana Sri Lanka
Brazil Indonesia Tanzania
Bulgaria Israel Thailand
China Jamaica Trinidad and Tobago
Colombia Korea, Rep. of Uruguay
Côte d'Ivoire Malaysia Tunisia
Cuba Malta Turkey
Dominican Republic Nicaragua Venezuela
Ecuador Peru Zaire
Gabon Senegal

The IMF and UNCTAD also have observer status.

Meetings

Since the fourth biennial review, reported in LIC/M/20, the Committee has held four meetings: in April 1988, September 1988, March 1989 and September 1989. Minutes of these meetings are contained in LIC/M/21-24.

1Argentina has signed the Agreement subject to ratification.
2For procedures relating to the participation of observers, see LIC/M/2, paragraphs 3, 4 and Annex.
2. INFORMATION

2.1 Publications

Articles 1.4, 3(c) and 3(e) of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures provide that Parties shall publish certain information. Article 1.4 provides that copies of the relevant publications shall be made available to the GATT Secretariat. At the meeting of the Committee held in April 1980 there was general agreement that, if delegations were not able to notify the full text of their laws and regulations in an official GATT language, they should supply national publications containing these texts to the GATT Secretariat (LIC/H/2).

2.1.1 Names of publications used

The following publications are used by Parties to provide information on their import licensing procedures.

**Argentina**: Official Gazette (LIC/3/Add.4)

**Australia**: Australian Customs Notice; Australian Customs Service News Release; Industry, Technology and Commerce News Release (LIC/3/Add.17/Rev.1)

**Austria**: Federal Gazette (LIC/3)

**Canada**: Canada Gazette (LIC/3)

**Chile**: Compendia de Normas de Importación (LIC/3)

**Czechoslovakia**: Gazette of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade; Public Notices of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Agriculture (LIC/3/Add.4)

**European Economic Community**: Official Journal of the European Communities, L and C series (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**Belgium**: Moniteur belge/Belgish Staatsblad; Informations du Commerce extérieur/Berichten over de buitenlandse handel (LIC/3/Corr.2)

**Denmark**: Meddelser fra Interministeriets Licenskontor (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**France**: Journal Officiel (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**Germany, Federal Republic of**: Bundesanzeiger; Bundesgesetzblatt (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**Greece**: Official Journal (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**Ireland**: Iris Oifigiul (Official Gazette) (LIC/3/Corr.1)

**Italy**: Gazetta Ufficiale; publications of the National External Trade Institute; Ministerial circulars LIC/3/Corr.1

**Luxembourg**: Mémorial du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (LIC/3/Corr.1)
Netherlands: Staatsblad (LIC/3/Corr.1)

United Kingdom: British Business; Press Notices and Announcements in Parliament (LIC/3/Corr.1)

Finland: Collection of Statutes of Finland; Ministry for Foreign Affairs, "Import System of Finland" (LIC/3/Corr.3)

Hong Kong: Hong Kong Government Gazette; Circulars of the Hong Kong Government (LIC/3/Add.4)

Hungary: Hungarian Gazette; Foreign Trade Gazette; Ministry of Foreign Trade, "Information on Import Licensing Procedures"; Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, "Directory of Hungarian Foreign Trade Companies" (LIC/3/Corr.2)

India: Import Policy Book; Handbook of Import-Export Procedures (LIC/3)


New Zealand: Customs Bulletin; Import Licensing Schedule; New Zealand Gazette (LIC/3)

Norway: Melding fra Handelsdepartmentet (LIC/3)

Pakistan: The Gazette of Pakistan (LIC/3/Add.3)

Philippines: Official Gazette: Annual Reports of the Central Bank (LIC/3/Add.4)

Poland: Law Journal of the Polish People's Republic; Official Journal of Ministry of Foreign Trade; publications of Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade (LIC/3/Add.17/Rev.1)

Romania: Informatii de comert exterior (LIC/3)

South Africa: Republic of South Africa Government Gazette (LIC/3)

Sweden: Board of Commerce, laws and regulations (KFS series); National Agricultural Market Board, laws (JNFS series) (LIC/3)

Switzerland: Recueil des lois fédérales (RO) (LIC/3/Add.3)

United States: Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms publications, ATF-P series; Department of Agriculture publications, USCS series; Code of Federal Regulations; Federal Register; Department of Energy, USC series; Appendix to United States Tariff Schedule (LIC/3)

Yugoslavia: Official Gazette of Yugoslavia (LIC/3)
2.1.2 Copies of publications available in the Secretariat

The following documents in the LIC/3 series contain references to publications, copies of which are available in the Secretariat.

**Argentina:** LIC/3; and Add.4

**Australia:** LIC/3; and Adds. 2, 4 and 6

**Canada:** LIC/3; and Adds. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17/Rev.1, 18, 21, and 22

**Chile:** LIC/3; and Add.3, 7 and 8

**Czechoslovakia:** LIC/3/Add.6

**European Economic Community:** LIC/3; and Adds. 1 and 5

- **Belgium:** LIC/3; and Adds 4, 6, 7 and 9
- **Denmark:** LIC/3 and Corr.2; and Adds. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
- **France:** LIC/3
- **Germany, Federal Republic of:** LIC/3
- **Ireland:** LIC/3/Add.2
- **Italy:** LIC/3
- **Luxembourg:** LIC/3; and Add.9
- **Netherlands:** LIC/3; and Add.4
- **United Kingdom:** LIC/3; and Add.3

**Finland:** LIC/3; and Adds.2, 6 and 7

**Hong Kong:** LIC/3; and Adds. 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17/Rev.1 and 22

**Hungary:** LIC/3; and Adds. 3 and 6

**India:** LIC/3; and Adds. 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 19 and 21

**Japan:** LIC/3/Corr.1 and Adds. 3, 14 and 17/Rev.1.

**New Zealand:** LIC/3; and Adds. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and Corr.1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17/Rev.1, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22

**Norway:** LIC/3; and Add.17/Rev.1

**Pakistan:** LIC/3/Adds.3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, and 21

**Philippines:** LIC/3/Adds. 3, 5 and 6

**Poland:** LIC/3/Adds.17/Rev.1 and 21

**Romania:** LIC/3
South Africa: LIC/3; and Adds 9, 10, 13 and 16

Sweden: LIC/3; and Adds. 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15

United States: LIC/3 and Corr.1; and Adds. 1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 13, 17/Rev.1, 18 and 21

Yugoslavia: LIC/3/Add.2

2.2 Public Notice

Article 3(d) states "in the case of quotas allocated amongst supplying countries, the Party applying the restrictions shall promptly inform all other Parties having an interest in supplying the product concerned of the shares in the quota currently allocated, by quantity or value, to the various supplying countries and shall give public notice thereof".

Document LIC/4/Rev.3 contains information on public notice for the following countries:

Argentina
Australia
Austria
Canada
Chile
Czechoslovakia
European Economic Community
   Belgium
   Denmark
   France
   Germany, Federal Republic of
   Greece
   Ireland
   Italy
   Luxembourg
   Netherlands
   United Kingdom
Finland
Hong Kong
Hungary
India
Japan
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
Romania
South Africa
Sweden
Switzerland
United States
Yugoslavia

2.2.1 Notifications relating to relevant laws and regulations

Article 5, paragraph 4(a) of the Agreement provides that "each government accepting or acceding to this Agreement shall ensure, no later than the date of entry into force of this Agreement for it, the conformity of its laws, regulations and administrative procedures with the provisions of this Agreement"; paragraph 4(b) provides that "each Party shall inform the Committee of any changes in its laws and regulations relevant to this Agreement and in the administration of such laws and regulations".

1The Import Licensing Bulletin referred to in LIC/4/Rev.3, paragraph 12 is no longer published.
Signatories have been invited, as in other Committees, to notify the full text of relevant laws and regulations in an official GATT language for circulation to the Committee. The Committee agreed that, if this was not practicable for certain delegations, as a first step they should submit publications containing the full text of these laws and regulations in the national language (LIC/M/2, paragraphs 12-14). Texts of laws and regulations supplied only in the national language are listed in Section 2.1.2 above.

Notifications circulated under the above-mentioned provisions are reproduced in LIC/1 and Addenda, as follows:

Argentina: LIC/1
Australia: LIC/1/Add.23
Austria: LIC/1/Add.8
Canada: LIC/1/Add.22
Chile: LIC/1/Add.5 and Corr. 1; and Adds. 10 and 26
Czechoslovakia: LIC/1/Add.28
Egypt: LIC/1/Add.33 (See also Section 3)
European Economic Community: LIC/1/Adds.3, 18, 31, and 37

Belgium: LIC/1/Add.17/Rev.1
Denmark: LIC/1/Add.7 and Suppl.1
France: LIC/1/Add.13
Germany, Federal Republic of: LIC/1/Adds.9 and 34
Ireland: LIC/1/Add.13
Luxembourg: LIC/1/Add.12
United Kingdom: LIC/1/Add.12

Finland: LIC/1/Add.4 and Suppl.1 and Corr.1
Hong Kong: LIC/1/Adds.14, 30, 32, 40, and 42
Hungary: LIC/1/Add.11
India: LIC/1/Add.6
Japan: LIC/1/Add.24
Mexico: LIC/1/Add.38 and 41
New Zealand: LIC/1/Add.16
Norway: LIC/1/Add.21
3. ADMINISTRATION OF IMPORT LICENSING

3.1 Automatic import licensing

Article 2, paragraph 1 of the Agreement defines automatic import licensing as "import licensing where approval of the application is freely granted". Article 2, paragraph 2(a) states that "automatic licensing procedures shall not be administered in a manner so as to have restricting effects on imports subject to automatic licensing."

This section gives references to information notified in each signatory's replies to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures. Reference is also made to any statements made by signatories on their implementation of the provisions of the Agreement on automatic import licensing, as reported in the minutes of the meetings since the fourth biennial review (LIC/M/19 to LIC/M/24).

Argentina (L/5640/Add.27 and Corrs.1 and 2)

For most imported goods there is an automatic licensing system. Import authorization is required for carbon steel sheets and plates and alloy steel bars.

Australia (L/5640/Add.13/Rev.3)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Austria (L/5640/Add.35 and Corr.1)

Licensing used for statistical purposes.

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1 A concordance between the Questionnaire and the Agreement is contained in Annex I.
Canada (L/5640/Add.10/Rev.2 and Suppl.1)

(a) Import permits for controlled and restricted drugs, explosives, and radioactive materials (prescribed substances).

(b) "Permit to Import" required for regulated plants and plant parts.

(c) Import permit for live animals, animal products, birds and veterinary biologics.

(d) Open general licensing for endangered species.

(e) Global surveillance of imports of dry casein.

(f) Individual and open general licensing for coffee, pursuant to undertakings under the International Coffee Agreement.

(g) Individual and open general licensing for carbon steel.

Chile (L/5640/Add.8/Rev.1 and Suppl.3)

Import certificate used for statistical purposes.

Czechoslovakia (L/5301 and L/5640/Add.38)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Egypt (L/5640/Add.37 and LIC/M/16, 20 and 21)

Egypt has notified that in 1986 a procedure of import application approval by two import rationalization committees ceased to exist. A monitoring system still exists.

European Economic Community (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1, and LIC/M/14/Rev.1)

(a) Import document for surveillance of liberalized products under Title III of Regulation 1765/82 and Title V of Regulation 288/82.

(b) Import certificate applicable to a number of agricultural products for statistical purposes.

Benelux Economic Union (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.2)

Licensing used for the application of certain regulations or administrative provisions.

Denmark (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.1)

Unrestricted licensing used as a tentative liberalization. This system had not been used in the six or seven years preceding the reply.
France (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1)

No automatic licensing procedures. Technical visas are required for certain liberalized products, for establishing statistics, verifying prices and implementing agricultural policy.

Germany, Federal Republic of (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1, and Suppl.2)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Greece (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1)

Automatic import licensing for certain products in List A.

Ireland (COM.IND/W/55 - COM.AG/W/72/Add.59)

System of national surveillance.

Italy (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.1)

Automatic licensing; import declaration; ICE visa and agricultural certificates.

Portugal (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.3)

Automatic licensing in exceptional cases for some goods for statistical purposes.

Spain (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.3)

Automatic licensing in exceptional cases for some goods for statistical purposes.

United Kingdom (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1)

Open general import licence.

Finland (L/5640/Add.6/Rev.1)

Automatic licensing for surveillance purposes for certain textile, steel and agricultural products.

Hong Kong (L/5640/Add.36/Rev.3)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Hungary (L/5194 and L/5640/Add.12/Rev.1 and Suppl.1)

No automatic licensing procedures.

India (L/5640/Add.7/Rev.3)

Open general licensing for certain goods exempted from import licences or customs clearance permits.
Japan (L/5168 and L/5640/Add.28 and Suppl.1 Corr.1 and LIC/M/5))

Prior confirmation system

Mexico (L/5640/Add.41/Corr.1)

Licencing of imports of parts and components for priority industrial branches

New Zealand (L/5640/Add.18/Rev.1 and LIC/M/14/Rev.1, 15, 16, 17 and 21)

"Licence on Demand" Status. Licences under the Import Licence Tendering Scheme move to "Global Licence on Demand" when average premiums in the two previous tender rounds have been 7.5 per cent or less. The goods that are the subject of the licence retain "Licence on Demand" status for 12 months and are then automatically exempted from import licence control.

Nigeria (See BOP/268.)

Nigeria has stated in the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions that all import licensing restrictions were abolished on the introduction of the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange market in 1986.

Norway (L/5640/Add.2 Rev.1, and LIC/M/15)

Liberal licensing of certain agricultural imports.

Licensing of some textile imports for surveillance purposes.

Pakistan (L/5640/Add.25 and Suppl.1)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Philippines (L/5640/Add.26/Rev.2)

Automatic licensing for non-quota products.

Poland (L/5640/Add.39/Rev.1 and LIC/M/17 and 21)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Romania (L/5110 and L/5640/Add.32)

Licences issued for keeping under observation the application of the provisions of Foreign Trade Plan.

Singapore (L/5640/Add.33/Rev.1 and Suppl.1)

No automatic licensing procedures.

South Africa (L/5640/Add.17/Rev.3)

No automatic licensing procedures.
Sweden (L/5640/Add.14/Rev.2)

(a) Licensing used to supervise imports within CCCN Chapters 1-24.
(b) Licensing used for surveillance purposes.

Switzerland (L/5223 and Corr.1 and L/5640/Add.19/Rev.1)

(a) Automatic licensing; "Three-phase" system for certain products within Chapters 1-24.
(b) Automatic Import Licensing for certain products within Chapters 25-99.

United States (L/5640/Add.40 and Suppls.1 and 2)

No automatic licensing procedures.

Yugoslavia L/5640/Add.20/Rev.2 and Suppl.1)

No automatic licensing procedures.

3.2 Non-automatic import licensing

The introduction to Article 3 defines non-automatic licensing as "import licensing procedures not falling under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 2" (which deal with automatic licensing), paragraph (a) going on to provide that "procedures adopted, and practices applied, in connection with the issuance of licences for the administration of quotas and other import restrictions shall not have trade restrictive effects on imports additional to those caused by the imposition of the restriction."

This section gives references to information contained in each signatory's replies to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures. Reference is also made to any statements made by signatories on their implementation of the provisions of the Agreement on non-automatic import licensing, as reported in the minutes of the meetings since the fourth biennial review (LIC/M/19/Rev.1 to LIC/M/24).

Argentina (L/5640/Add.27 and Corrs.1 and 2)

System of prior study and Sworn Declaration of Import Needs.

Australia (L/5640/Add.13/Rev.3)

(a) Import licensing in respect of designated industrial goods (used, second-hand or disposals earth-moving equipment, tractors, road-rollers, materials handling equipment and certain four-wheel-drive vehicles) in order to restrict the quantity of goods imported, to assist local industry.

1A concordance between the Questionnaire and the Agreement is contained in Annex II
(b) Import Licensing used to control the importation of narcotics and certain psychotropic substances and therapeutic substances and goods.

Austria (L/5640/Add.35 and Corr.1)

(a) Import Licences for products subject to quantitative restrictions.

(b) Other

Importation of textiles (MFA)
Import licences of the Monopoly Administration (L/1949/Add.21)
Importation of coffee (International Coffee Agreement, 1983)
Importation of Sugar (International Sugar Agreement)

These licensing procedures are mentioned but no details are given.

Canada (L/5640/Add.10/Rev.2 and Suppl.1)

(a) Import licensing of narcotics, controlled and restricted drugs.

(b) Import control of prescribed radioactive substances, certain food products under Animal Disease and Protection Act, and grains.

(c) General or individual "back to back" import licensing of clothing and handbags to administer bilateral export restraint arrangements under MFA.

(d) General or individual "back to back" import licensing of textiles to administer bilateral export restraint arrangements under MFA.

(e) Individual import licensing for women's and girls' footwear products to restrict the quantity of imports in accordance with Article XIX action. Men's and boys' footwear was derestricted on 1 December 1985.

(f) Individual import licensing of dairy products

   (i) subject to global quotas (cheese, dry buttermilk, sweet condensed milk)

   (ii) subject to discretionary licensing (all remaining products)

(g) Individual import licensing of turkey, eggs and chicken to administer import restrictions.

(h) Individual import permits for endangered species.

Chile (L/5640/Add.8/Rev.1 and Suppl.3)

No non-automatic licensing procedures.
Czechoslovakia (L/5301 and L/5640/Add.38)

(a) Veterinary licence required for importation of all live animals and animal products.

(b) Import licence for plants and vegetable products.

(c) Licences for imports of narcotics.

(d) Importation of arms, ammunition and explosives is regulated by internal provisions. These provisions are not published and information relating to their implementation is not furnished for reasons of protection of essential security interests.

Egypt (L/5640/Add.37 and LIC/M/16, 20 and 21)

No non-automatic licensing (see section 3.1).

European Economic Community (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1, and LIC/M/14/Rev.1, 15 and 16)

Import authorizations for products subject to Community quotas.

Benelux Economic Union (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.2)

Import licensing of designated goods to administer import restrictions.

Denmark (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.1)

Import licensing of designated goods (potatoes, tomatoes, ethanol and gold) to administer quantitative restrictions.

France (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1)

Import licensing for products under quota restrictions.

Germany, Federal Republic of (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1, and Suppl.2)

Licensing to restrict the quantity of imports; applied to a number of foodstuffs and coal products from all sources, textiles and ceramics, and certain products from State-trading countries.

Greece (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1)

Import licensing of designated goods (certain agricultural goods, capital goods, textiles and iron and steel products).

Ireland (COM.IND/W/55 - COM.AG/W/72/Add.59)

Licensing to administer annual quotas.
Italy (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.1)

Import licensing of designated goods used to administer quantitative import restrictions.

Portugal (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.3)

Import licensing of designated goods used to administer quantitative import restrictions.

Spain (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1/Suppl.3)

Import licensing of designated goods used to administer quantitative import restrictions.

United Kingdom (L/5640/Add.21/Rev.1 and Suppl.2)

Individual import licences for goods originating from the sources indicated.

Finland (L/5130/Rev.1, L/5640/Add.6/Rev.1, LIC/W/45 and LIC/M/22 and 23)

Global licensing for the administration of quotas. Individual (discretionary) licensing.

Hong Kong (L/5640/Add.36/Rev.3)

Import licensing to administer import control systems for rice and ozone-depleting substances. Import licensing of designated goods for purposes of strategic control, public health, reserve stock, surveillance, sanction, and the protection of endangered species of animals and plants.

Hungary (L/5194 and L/5640/Add.12/Rev.1 and Suppl.1 and LIC/M/23)

Import licensing to administer import quotas for certain goods.

India (L/5640/Add.7/Rev.3 and LIC/M/14/Rev.1, and 15)

Import licences or customs clearance permits, and supplementary licences, for all imports (unless exempted) to administer import restrictions.

Japan (L/5168 and L/5640/Add.28 and Suppl.1 and Corr.1 and LIC/M/14/Rev.1 and 15)

Certificate of import quota allocation required for designated items in the import quota system.

Mexico (L/5640/Add.41 and Corr.1)

Import licensing to administer import quotas for certain goods.
New Zealand (L/5640/Add.18/Rev.1 and LIC/M/14/Rev.1, 15, 16, 17 and 21)

(a) Basic licences to administer restrictions on imports of designated goods, based on the amount of qualifying licences held in the previous period.

(b) Special licences issued to meet specific requirements for item codes with a "special" allocation or above the basic allocation in other item codes.

(c) Licences issued under the Import Licence Tendering Scheme.

Import licensing on all goods except of those covered by specific industry plans (most of which have their own phase-out programmes for the termination of import licensing) is to terminate on 1 July 1988.

Nigeria (see section 3.1)

Norway (L/5640/Add.2/Rev.1, and LIC/M/15)

(a) Import licensing for certain categories of textile products, mainly ready-made clothes, which are subject to MFA agreements.

(b) Licensing of certain imports under bilateral agreements.

(c) Import licensing of designated agricultural goods to regulate imports on a quantitative basis.

Pakistan (L/5640/Add.25 and Suppl.1)

"Negative list" of items banned for import, and "restricted list", including, inter alia, items subject to quantitative restrictions.

Philippines (L/5640/Add.26/Rev.2)

Discretionary licensing to administer imports of designated goods, operated through specified agencies.

Poland (L/5640/Add.39/Rev.1 and LIC/M/17 and 21)

Licensing applied to all products from all sources.

Romania (L/5110 and L/5640/Add.32)

Licences issued for the administration of eventual restrictions which may be imposed with a view to equilibrating the balance-of-payments, protecting public health, for national defence and State security. At present these licences are not applied.

Singapore (L/5640/Add.33/Rev.1 and Suppl.1)

Licences are used to control imports of rice and all goods originating from Albania, Laos, East Germany, Viet Nam and Mongolia.
South Africa (L/5640/Add.17/Rev.3 and LIC/M/14/Rev.1)

Licensing to monitor imports of certain sensitive commodities. Specific licences are made available on the basis of importers' past performance.

Sweden (L/5640/Add.14/Rev.2 and LIC/M/20)

(a) Import licensing by the National Agricultural Market Board or the National Board of Trade, of designated goods within CCCN Chapters 1-24 and 31 to administer import restrictions.

(b) Import licensing by the National Board of Trade to supervise import restriction on designated goods under CCCN Chapters 25-99 (except 31) from State-trading countries, on textile and clothing products under the MFA, on iron and steel products and on imports from South Africa.

Switzerland (L/5223 and L/5640/Add.19/Rev.1)

(a) Import licensing to administer quantitative restrictions; "take-over" system; "three-phase" system for products within Chapters 1-24.

(b) Import Licensing of designated goods subject to quantitative restrictions (narcotic drugs, full-length feature films).

United States (L/5640/Add.40 and Suppl.1 and 2)

(a) Import permits for plants and plant products required to protect against introduction of plant pests and disease (Department of Agriculture).

(b) Certificates of eligibility for imports of sugars, syrups and molasses from quota countries; separate quotas for specialty sugar; licences for quota-exempt sugar from all sources (Department of Agriculture).

(c) Import licensing to administer quantitative restrictions on certain dairy products (Department of Agriculture).

(d) Import permits for livestock and poultry required to protect against introduction of animal disease or pests (Department of Agriculture)

(e) Import licensing to administer imports of natural gas (Department of Energy)

(f) Import licensing to administer imports of fish and wildlife (including endangered species) (Department of Interior).

(g) Import licensing to administer quantitative restrictions on controlled drugs and to maintain a monitoring system (Department of Justice).

(h) Import licensing to administer packaging and labelling requirements for distilled spirits (beverages), wine and malt beverages (Department of Treasury).
(i) Permit system to control authorized importation of distilled spirits for industrial purposes (Department of Treasury).

(j) Licensing system to administer imports of firearms and ammunition (Department of Treasury).

(k) A system of registration and permits to administer importation of arms, ammunition and implements of war (Department of Treasury).

(l) Licensing system to administer imports of explosives (Department of Treasury).

(m) Import licensing of nuclear facilities and materials (Nuclear Regulatory Commission).

(n) Licensing to control imports of biological products (Food and Drug Administration).

Yugoslavia (L/5640/Add.20/Rev.2 and Suppl.1)

Import licensing to administer imports of goods for which Yugoslavia has assumed an obligation under international conventions and other intergovernmental agreements and to control transactions involving armaments and military equipment.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Since the fourth biennial review, there has been no further discussion in the Committee of possible obstacles to joining the Agreement. LIC/8, and LIC/9 contain the records of the earlier discussions of this question.

5. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMITTEE

At its eleventh meeting, the Committee adopted, as part of its regular agenda, a work programme to help the Committee reach a common understanding on the meaning of certain provisions of the Agreement formulated in vague terms (LIC/M/11, paragraphs 29-34). Recommendations adopted by the Committee on the application of Articles 1.4, 1.6, 3(c), 3(d), 3(e) and 3(g) of the Agreement are contained in LIC/12; statements made at the time of adoption of these recommendations are contained in LIC/M/18. Subsequent statements referring to these recommendations are contained in LIC/M/20, paragraphs 13, and 24.

The question of the definition of "import licensing" under Article 1.1 has continued to be discussed (see LIC/M/20, 21, 22, 23 and 24).

The Committee discussed regularly the relationship between its work and the Uruguay Round. (See LIC/M/20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.) At its meeting in September 1989, the Committee held preliminary discussions on a proposal submitted by the United States and Hong Kong to improve the Agreement (LIC/W/49). This proposal was submitted simultaneously to the Negotiating Group on MTN Agreements and Arrangements (MTN.GNG/NG8/W/53).

7. CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

7.1 Procedures

Article 4 paragraph 2 provides that "consultations and the settlement of disputes with respect to any matter affecting the operation of this Agreement, shall be subject to the procedures of Articles XXIII of the GATT". Statements made on the interpretation of this provision are referred to in LIC/M/1, paragraph 7.

In October 1987, the Committee agreed to a request from the United States to establish a panel to examine a dispute between the United States and India concerning India's import licensing regime on almonds (LIC/M/19). In October 1988, the Committee took note of a communication from the United States advising that the United States and India had reached a mutually satisfactory solution to their dispute and that as a result the complaint by the United States against India under Article 4.2 of the Agreement had been withdrawn. (LIC/M/22 and LIC/15).

7.2 Panelists

At the second meeting of the Committee on Import Licensing held on 29 April 1980, the Chairman noted that a number of delegations had designated persons to be available to serve on panels and that, as had been agreed at the first meeting, any such notifications were being made without prejudice to any decision that the Committee might take as to the appropriate mechanism to be used for dispute settlement (LIC/M/1, paragraph 7 and LIC/M/2, paragraph 26).

The following list of names of persons available to serve on panels has been communicated to the Committee:

Chile

European Economic Community
Belgium
Denmark
France
Italy
Netherlands

Mr. F. Morales
Mr. J.D. Devadder
Mr. O. Bruun-Pedersen
Mr. Garapon
Mr. S. Fanella
Mr. F. Weiss
Finland Mrs B. Widing
Hong Kong Mr. J.H. Lau Jr.
India Mr. A. Ramachandran
                  Shri Takhat Ram
Norway Mr. H. Boyum
Romania Mr. G. Luca
United States Ms. F. Lizer
                  Ms. D. Dwoskin

The delegation of New Zealand has informed the Committee that it is prepared to indicate the names of experts available to serve on panels.

The delegations of Austria and Switzerland have indicated that they are in principle prepared to secure experts for panels. Should the participation of their experts in a specific panel be required, their authorities would then upon request endeavour to make available an appropriate person.

8. FINAL PROVISIONS

8.1 Acceptance and Accession

In the period since the fourth biennial review, Mexico accepted the Agreement on 9 February 1988 and it entered into force in Mexico on 10 March 1988.

8.2 Procedures for Accession of Non-Contracting Parties were discussed in the third, fourth and fifth meetings of the Committee (see LIC/M/3, 4 and 5). A proposal remains before the Committee (LIC/M/3, paragraphs 7 and 8 Annex).

8.3 Withdrawal

No signatory has withdrawn from the Agreement in the period under review.
Annex I

Generally, information concerning the administration of automatic licensing procedures can be found under the following headings in the replies to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Relevant Article in Agreement</th>
<th>Relevant Question in Questionnaire</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Purposes of maintaining automatic import licensing procedures</td>
<td>Article 2.2(b)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Product coverage</td>
<td>Article 1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Eligibility of importers to apply for automatic licences</td>
<td>Article 2.2(c) and Article 1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Period of submission and processing of applications</td>
<td>Article 2.2(d) and 7(b), 7(c)</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Administrative body to be approached</td>
<td>Article 1.6</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Refusal of applications</td>
<td>Article 1.7</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Application forms and other documents required on application</td>
<td>Article 1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Availability of foreign exchange for imports</td>
<td>Article 1.9</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Annex II

Generally, information concerning the administration of non-automatic licensing procedures can be found under the following headings of the replies to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heading</th>
<th>Relevant Article in Agreement</th>
<th>Relevant Question in Questionnaire</th>
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<td>Article 3(a)</td>
<td>No. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Product coverage under each non-automatic licensing system</td>
<td>Article 1.4</td>
<td>No. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Distribution of licences among supplying countries</td>
<td>Article 3(b)iii and 3(m)</td>
<td>No. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Size of Quotas</td>
<td>Articles 3(i), 3(j) and 3(n)</td>
<td>Nos 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Eligibility of importers to apply for a non-automatic licence</td>
<td>Article 3(f)</td>
<td>No. 9(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Allocation of licences to applicants</td>
<td>Article 3(k) and 3(l)</td>
<td>Nos. 6(c) and 6(h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Period of processing of applications</td>
<td>Article 3(g)</td>
<td>No. 6(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Period of licence validity</td>
<td>Article 3(h)</td>
<td>Nos 6(f) and 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Application forms and other documents required on application</td>
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<td>No. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Administrative body to be approached</td>
<td>Article 1.6</td>
<td>No. 6(g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Refusal of applications</td>
<td>Article 1.7</td>
<td>No. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Availability of foreign exchange</td>
<td>Article 1.9</td>
<td>No. 19</td>
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