Committee on Trade in Agriculture

INFORMATION ON MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE
SUBMITTED BY THAILAND

Note by the Secretariat

1. This note summarizes the information provided by Thailand concerning measures affecting trade in agricultural products as contained in document AG/FOR/THA/1.

2. The information relates to 177 CCCN headings at the four-digit level in Chapters 1 to 24; no other products or headings are covered. The explanatory note in the beginning of the document AG/FOR/THA/1 provides a general profile of Thailand's import and export system, regional trade arrangements and details regarding the symbols used in various columns of the notification.

Measures affecting exports

3. Measures affecting Thailand's export of agricultural products include licensing (L); conditional or total prohibition (CP; P); minimum price (MP); export tax (XTX); export licensing (XLC); quotas (Q) and the voluntary restraint agreements (VRA). Export licensing is applied to 13 products either under Article XX:g (6 items) or Article XX:h (1 item), under Article XI:2 a (4 items), Article VIII:c (1 item). All these measures are classified under the symbol (a), except CCCN heading 03.03 which is shown under Article VIII:c with the symbol (f). Specific export licensing exists for the exports of seeds of certain plants such as dates and bananas (08.01) under Article XI:2 with the symbol (a). Exports of "Other live animals" (CCCN 01.06) are partially prohibited under Article XX:g and of "vegetable materials for plaiting" (14.01) are conditionally prohibited under Article XX:i, respectively to conserve exhaustible natural resources and to ensure essential supplies for domestic processing. Both these measures are shown with symbol (a). Minimum price (MP) exists for exports of "crustaceans and molluscs" (16.05) and "fruits otherwise preserved" (20.06) under Article XX:d,
with the symbol (a). Export tax is shown for rice (10.06) under Article XI:2 a, again under the symbol (a). A voluntary restraint agreement (VRA) is said to exist for manioc, sweet potatoes, sago (07.06), and the measure is classified under the symbol (a) without any GATT Article. Exports of coffee (09.01) are regulated by quota (Q) under the International Coffee Agreement and are classified under GATT Article XX:h, with the symbol (a). No subsidies or other forms of export assistance have been indicated.

**Measures affecting imports**

(i) **Tariffs and preferences**

4. Of the 177 CCCN positions, 15 are partially or fully bound under the GATT. Reference is made to Article II, with classification under (f). Almost 114 positions are granted preferential duty rates (OP), if imported from the ASEAN group, under the "Enabling Clause" and GATT Article XXIV, and these preferences are classified under the symbol (f).

(ii) **Other measures**

5. Other measures affecting imports of agricultural products include sanitary or phyto-sanitary measures (SN, PSN), licensing (L), discretionary licensing (DL), import licensing for seeds of certain products (ML), prohibitions (P), import surcharge (SURCH) and inspection requirements (I).

6. Sanitary and phyto-sanitary regulations are specifically applied to 17 food and other agricultural products under Article XX:b and are classified under the symbol (a). Imports of one item (i.e. seeds and fruits for sowing 12.03) are subject to licensing under the same GATT Article and classification. Licensing is also applied under GATT Article XVIII:c for 8 items and Article XVIII:b for 1 item, and the measure is classified under the symbol (f). Imports of coffee, tea and maté extracts (21.02) are also subject to licensing under the disciplines of the International Agreement and are classified under Article XX:h with the symbol (a). Imports of alcoholic beverages (22.03 to 22.09) are subject to discretionary licensing under GATT Article XX:d and are classified under the symbol (a). Import licences are required for 3 food products (i.e. 07.06, 10.05, 10.07) under GATT Article XI:2 b for maintaining standards, grading or marketing in international trade, and the measure is shown under the symbol (a). On the other hand, imports of 9 other items (i.e. 07.06, 08.01, 08.02, 10.06, 12.01, 17.01, 17.02, 17.04 and 20.07) are partially or totally prohibited under the GATT justification of Article XX:b, and the measure is shown under the symbol (a). Under the same justification, imports of another 4 items, i.e. 08.04, 08.06, 08.07 and 08.09, are subjected to inspection by the quarantine authorities at the port of entry, and the measure is shown under symbol (a).
7. A surcharge at the rate of 30 per cent is applied to imports of "fatty acid, fatty alcohol (15.10) and at the rate of 15 per cent to imports of natural yeasts, baking powders (21.06), under the GATT Article III, with the classification (f).

8. No indication has been given of State-trading for any of the agricultural products.

Summary

- 61 measures have been classified under (a)
- none under (b), (c), (d) or (e)
- 141 measures have been shown under (f).