

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

BOP/114/Add.2

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ISRAELI IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND TEMPORARY IMPORT SURCHARGE

Basic Document for the Consultation

Addendum¹

Temporary Import Surcharge

In the light of the continued rapid deterioration in the balance of payments, the Government has recourse to a series of emergency measures, one of which was the imposition of an overall 20 per cent import surcharge. The surcharge came into force on 18 August 1970 and its provisions were immediately notified to the CONTRACTING PARTIES (see documents L/3433 and Add.1). It will be recalled that the Council at its meeting of 29 September 1970 decided to refer examination of the matter to the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions, and the Committee was asked to take into account the discussions in the last consultation with Israel held in March 1970 (see document C/M/64).

The background to the balance-of-payments situation which led to the introduction of this measure may be found in Part 7 of the basic document BOP/114. The order imposing the surcharge specifies that a 20 per cent surcharge on the c.i.f. value of the goods is to be applied on all imports into Israel with the exception of a few special categories such as certain essential foodstuffs, fuel, ships and aircraft, and imports for the handicapped (see list annexed). These exemptions amount to less than 15 per cent of all imports of goods, based on import returns for 1969.

It is to be noted that the surcharge is levied on imports from all sources without discrimination as to country of origin.

The Temporary Import Surcharge is at present in force until 31 March 1972. Prior to this date the subject will be fully reviewed by the Israel authorities in the light of latest developments in the balance of payments and the general economic situation.

¹Statement supplied by the Israeli authorities.

LIST OF ITEMS EXEMPTED FROM
TEMPORARY IMPORT SURCHARGE ORDER

BTN	Brief description
03.01 1000) 2000) 3000)	Various types of fish, fresh, chilled or frozen
4020	Fillet
10.01 1000) 9900)	Wheat
10.06 1000	Rough rice
12.01 5500	Soyabeans
6500	Copra
15.07 1031	Soyabean oil
17.01 9900	Beet and cane sugar, other than items falling under sub-headings 1000, 2000 and 3000
27.09	Petroleum oils
49.01 1010	Books
49.01 9900	Printed books, etc. (excluding Hebrew)
49.02	Newspapers, journals and periodicals
49.04	Music, printed or in manuscript
49.05	Maps and atlases
49.07 1000) 9910)	Postage stamps, unused
66.02 1000	Walking sticks for the blind
71.02 1010	Unworked diamonds
2010	Other precious or semi-precious stones, unworked
71.07 1000) 2010)	Gold, unwrought and semi-manufactured
71.09 1000) 2010)	Platinum, unwrought and semi-manufactured
71.11 1000	Goldsmiths' sweepings, of gold
71.11 2000	Goldsmiths' sweepings, of platinum
72.01 1000) 2000)	Coins

BTN	Brief description
73.33 1000	Styles for writing Braille
83.06 1000	Religious articles for places of worship
83.07 1030	Non-flashing beacons for airports
84.06 3010	Aircraft engines for aircraft classified under item 88.02 1000
4010	Marine engines for ships falling under heading 89.01 9910 .
9951	Parts for aircraft engines classified under 84.06 3010
9961	Parts for marine engines classified under 84.06 4010
84.51 1000	Typewriters with Braille characters
84.55 1000	Braille letter-sets for typewriters
85.08 1000	Electrical ignition equipment for aircraft
85.13 1010	Telephone apparatus
85.14 3000	Auditory training units for the deaf-mute
87.02 5000	Passenger cars imported by new immigrants
87.04 7000	Chassis used for the assembly of motor vehicles intended for for burial purposes
87.09 2000	Motor cycles imported by new immigrants
87.10 1000	Bicycles for invalids
87.11	Invalid carriages, mechanically propelled
87.12 3000	Parts for invalid carriages falling under heading 87.11
87.13 1000	Non-motorized invalid carriages and parts
88.02 1000	Aircrafts used in regular commercial air services
88.03 1000	Parts for flying machines classified under 88.02 1000
88.04 1000	Rocket parachute distress signals
89.01 2010	Lifeboats
9910	Boats used in regular commercial services to or from Israel ports
90.01 1020	Projection readers
90.16 4010	Drawing instruments for the blind
90.19 1100) 2090) 3000)	Orthopaedic appliances and deaf aids and heart pacemakers
91.01 1000	Watches for the blind

BTN	Brief description
99.01	Paintings, drawings, etc.
99.02	Engravings
99.03	Sculptures
99.04	Used postage stamps
99.05	Collections and collectors' pieces
99.06	Antiques
201, 210, 612	Samples
203	Magnetic tape, being recorded, temporarily imported
204	Cinematographic film, not exceeding 16 mm., for demonstrating use of equipment
205	Tapes for magnetic recording
206	Goods imported for film production
208	Equipment for archaeological excavations
209	Equipment for entertainment troupes
407	Scientific instruments for pure scientific research
408	Hand tools for use with artificial limbs
410	Goods used for airlines and airports
411 1000	Fuel and lubricating oils for goods classified under 89.01 2910
412 1000	Machines and materials for ship-building or repair of ships classified under 89.01 9910
420	Tombstones and ornaments for graves
422	Motor vehicles for invalids
425 1000) 9910)	Materials and parts for the manufacture and repair of aircraft
426	Machinery for the manufacture or repair of aircraft
602	Equipment for the blind
603	Special lenses or spectacles for use of persons with severely limited powers of vision
610	Films, tapes and records privately imported not for re-sale
611	Coffins
614	Small postal and air freight parcels for private use

BTN	Brief description
615	Cinematographic film for educational use
617	Blanks for striking coins
621	Military equipment
623	Goods used in manufacture of parachutes, safety belts and the like
624	Goods for the manufacture of military equipment
801	Religious articles
816.3010 and 4000	Electrical equipment for construction of models for research purposes
818 2510	Instant coffee imported for personal use
818 2590	Other foodstuffs imported for personal use
3000	Medicines imported for personal use
