

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
L/5640/Add.6/Rev.3
20 December 1993
Limited Distribution

(93-2199)

Original: English

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

FINLAND

Revision

The following notification has been received from the Permanent Mission of Finland in response to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures annexed to document L/5640/Rev.9. It replaces documents L/5640/Add.6/Rev.2 and Supplements 1 and 2.

OUTLINE OF SYSTEMS

1. The Ministry of Trade and Industry (Trade Department) in Helsinki administers the licensing régimes in Finland. Licensing and export control include the monitoring of foreign trade and trade restrictions to the extent such measures are provided for in current legislation.

PURPOSES AND COVERAGE OF LICENSING

2. The import licensing régime¹ can be divided into four groups as follows:
- A. Licensing from countries which are granted a so-called multilateral treatment (see Annex)
 - (i) Global licensing for the administration of quotas for certain agricultural products.
 - (ii) Individual (discretionary) licensing applicable to imports of certain agricultural products.
 - B. Individual (discretionary) licensing for imports from Taiwan.
 - C. Individual (discretionary) licensing for all imports originating in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
 - D. Automatic import licensing.

¹A copy of Import and Export Licensing in Finland: Administration, Outline of Systems and General Instructions for Licence Application (applied from 1 September 1993), published by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, is available for reference in the Secretariat (Office No. 3013).

- 3.-4. (i) Global licensing for the administration of quotas for certain agricultural products, the values of which are fixed annually. Importers may import the products within the quotas from the countries which are granted multilateral treatment (see Annex). Products subject to global licensing are in List I.
- (ii) Individual licensing applied to imports of certain agricultural products. Importers are free to select the country of importation from among the countries which are granted multilateral treatment (see Annex). Products subject to individual licensing are in List II.
- (iii) In addition to the goods mentioned in List I and List II, the following goods originating in Taiwan are subject to individual (discretionary) import licensing: plastic and textile goods, bags, suitcases and footwear.
- (iv) All imports originating in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are subject to individual (discretionary) licensing.
- (v) Automatic licensing is applicable to certain steel products for surveillance purposes if not otherwise stated. Licences are granted automatically. In addition, the Finnish Council of State decided on 5 August 1993 that meat, edible meat offal (except poultry) and certain meat preparations shall be subject to automatic licensing. Further information on the product coverage of automatic import licensing is given by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

5. The import licensing régimes described above are used for the implementation of Finnish licensing systems according to the Law on Safeguarding Foreign Trade (157/73) and the subsidiary Decree 1301/89 as amended in 1990 and 1993 (amendments 65/93, 180/93 and 735/93). The Law contains the main principles applicable to regulating foreign trade. The Decree specifies the products subject to import licensing systems, which cannot be abolished without legislative approval.

PROCEDURES

6. I. Information on annual global quotas is published in the official publications of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The amounts published are global quotas as to quantity or value and are not allocated to goods from any specific country listed in the Annex.

Information on the import system of Finland can be obtained through the GATT Secretariat and through the Finnish embassies and trade missions abroad.

II. The size of quotas is determined mainly on an annual basis. Licences are issued for a certain period. The validity of these licences may be prolonged. After using the granted licence the importer must apply for a new licence.

III. Licences are issued to all importers alike. Licences should be returned to the Ministry of Trade and Industry upon request only.

Unused allocations may be divided among other importers during the calendar year, but are not added to quotas of the following year. Lists of licences granted to each importer are published by the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Licences are not transferable without approval by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

IV. Applications can be submitted before or during the year. However, licences are not issued until the first day of the calendar year in question.

V. 1-14 days.

VI. Applications can be made at any time during the year.

VII. The Ministry of Trade and Industry in Helsinki administers the import licensing régimes applicable as the only administrative licensing authority.

VIII. If the demand for licences cannot be fully satisfied, the allocation of quotas is carried out on the basis of past performance. A reasonable amount, about 10 per cent, of each quota is reserved for new importers. If the importer needs a smaller share, his theoretical unused amount is divided between other importers in proportion to their past performance. Applications are examined on receipt.

IX. For export of certain goods, some countries require an Import Certificate to certify that the goods will remain and will be used in the country of destination. These Import Certificates are granted by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

X. The information procedures are usually agreed upon in the bilateral agreements.

XI. Import licences are sometimes issued on the condition that the product should be exported and not sold on the domestic market.

7. Applications for the import of products under the automatic licensing régime may be made at any time to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The licence is granted 1-4 days after the request. Firm orders for goods cannot be made before import licences are granted.

8. The reasons for refusal are always communicated to the applicant. The applicant may renew his application for a licence refused.

ELIGIBILITY OF IMPORTERS TO APPLY FOR LICENCE

9.(a-b) All persons, firms, or institutions engaged in business activities in Finland are eligible to apply for licences for products in their sectors.

DOCUMENTATIONAL OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION OF LICENCE

10. The application should include the following data: name and address of applicant, specification of goods, HS position, quantity and amount of currency required, country of consignment, country of purchase, country of origin and expected time of importation.

11. Upon actual importation the following documents are required: invoice; customs declaration; declaration of dutiable value; import licence.

12. The licensing fees vary from FIM 50 to FIM 1,000 depending on the value of the products to be imported under a licence.

13. There are no deposit or advance payment requirements associated with the issue of licences.

CONDITIONS OF LICENSING

14. The maximum period of validity of a licence is six to twelve months, which is normally not extended.

15. No.

16. Licences are not transferable without approval by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

17. No.

OTHER PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

18. No.

19. Not applicable.

LIST I
PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO GLOBAL LICENSING

<u>Quota No.</u>	<u>Customs tariff no</u>	<u>Product</u>
1.		Salmon
	03.02.12.00	Salmon, fresh or chilled
	03.03.10.00 and 22.00	Salmon, frozen
ex	03.04.10.99 and 90.99	Salmon, filleted and other salmon meat, fresh, chilled or frozen
ex	03.04.20.10	Salmon, filleted, frozen, excluding deep-frozen
3.		Other fish than salmon
	03.02.11.00 and 19.00	Other salmonidae, fresh or chilled
	03.02.40.20	Baltic herring, fresh or chilled
	03.03.21.00, 29.10/29.90	Other salmonidae, frozen
	03.03.50.20	Baltic herring, frozen
ex	03.04.10.99 and 90.99	Other fish meat (whether or not minced), fresh, chilled or frozen - other salmonidae than Pacific salmon, Atlantic salmon and Danube salmon - Baltic herring
4.		Dried milk
	04.02.10.00/29.00	Milk and cream in solid form
8.		Juices and juice concentrates
ex	20.09.80.10	Juices and juice concentrates of strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry and currants
10.		Fruits
ex	08.10.10.00/30.00	Strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries and loganberries, black, white or red currants and gooseberries, fresh
	08.11.10.10/10.90	Strawberries
ex	08.11.20.10/90.19	Berries, fruits and nuts, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter; currants and gooseberries of fruits not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter
	08.12.20.00	Strawberries, provisionally preserved
	08.12.90.21/90.29	Raspberries, gooseberries and currants, provisionally preserved
12.		Vegetable oils
	15.07	Soya bean oil
ex	15.14	Rape, colza and turnip oil, excluding mustard oil

LIST II**PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO INDIVIDUAL LICENSING**

<u>Quota No.</u>	<u>Customs tariff no</u>	<u>Product</u>
Chapter 1		Live animals
ex	01.01/06	Live animals for meat use
Chapter 2		Meat and edible meat offal
ex	02.01/02.06 02.07 02.08.90.20 and 02.09/02.10	Meat and edible meat offal of bovine animals, swine, sheep or goats, horses, asses, hinnies, poultry or reindeer
Chapter 4		Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey
	04.02.91.00/99.00	Milk and cream, concentrated or sweetened in other than solid form
	04.06	Cheese and curd
	04.07	Birds' eggs, in shell, fresh, preserved or cooked, excluding cooked hens' eggs
ex	04.08	Other than cooked hens' eggs, whether moulded or not
	04.09	Natural honey
	04.10	Edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included
Chapter 6		Cut flowers
ex	06.03.10.11/10.94	- Customs cleared 1.3-30.11
Chapter 7		Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers
	07.01	Potatoes, fresh or chilled
ex	07.02	Tomatoes, fresh or chilled
		- customs cleared 1.4. - 14.10.
ex	07.03.10.00/90.12	Onions, other than garlic
ex	07.03.90.90	Other onions, customs cleared 1.6. - 30.9
	07.04.10.10	Cauliflowers, customs cleared 1.6. - 31.10
	07.04.20.10	Brussels sprouts, customs cleared 1.6. - 31.10
	07.04.90.10/90.90	Other cabbages
ex	07.05.11.10/11.20	Heading lettuce, customs cleared 1.3. - 14.11.
		Iceberry lettuce, customs cleared 1.4. - 31.10.
ex	07.05.19.10/29.20	Lettuce, customs cleared 1.3. - 14.11.
		Other lettuces, customs cleared 1.4. - 14.11.
	07.06.10.11/10.12	Carrots
ex	07.06.90.10	Celeriac
ex	07.06.90.21/90.22	Red beet

ex	07.07.00.10/00.20	Cucumbers and gherkins, customs cleared 1.3-14.10
	07.08	Leguminous vegetables
	07.09.40.00	Celery other than celeriac
ex	07.11.10.00	Onions, provisionally preserved by sulphur dioxide gas
	07.11.40.00	Cucumbers and gherkins, provisionally preserved by sulphur dioxide gas
ex	07.11.90.20/90.90	Other vegetables than asparagus, provisionally preserved by sulphur dioxide gas
ex	07.13.10.90	Peas, of a kind used for human consumption
Chapter 10		Cereals
	10.03	Barley
Chapter 11		Products of the milling industry
	11.05	Flour, meal, flakes, corns and pellets made of potatoes
	11.06.10.00/20.00	Flour and meal of the dried leguminous vegetables of heading No. 07.13. of sago or of roots or tubers of heading No. 07.14
Chapter 12		Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder
	12.01	Soya beans, whether or not broken
	12.03	Copra
ex	12.04	Linseed, not intended for human consumption
	12.05	Rape and colza seeds, whether or not broken
	12.06	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken
	12.07.10.00	Palm nuts and kernels, whether or not broken
	12.07.20.00	Cotton seeds, whether or not broken
ex	12.07.30.00/40.00	Castor oil seeds and sesamum seeds, whether or not broken, not intended for human consumption
	12.07.60.00/92.00	Safflower seeds, poppy seeds and shea nuts, whether or not broken
ex	12.07.99.00	Hemp and oiticica seeds and beech nuts, whether or not broken, not intended for human consumption
	12.08	Flours and meals of oil seeds or oleaginous fruits, other than those of mustard
	12.12.91.00/92.00	Sugar beet and sugar cane
ex	12.13	Cereal straw, in the form of pellets
	12.14.10.00	Lucerne (alfalfa) meal and pellets
	12.14.90.90	Swedes, mangolds and other fodder roots, whether or not in the form of pellets

Chapter 15

	15.01
	15.02
	15.03
ex	15.06
	15.08
	15.09.10.00
	15.09.90.90
	14.10.00.99
	15.11
	15.12
	15.13
	15.16.10.90
ex	15.16.20.90
	15.17.10.00
	15.17.90.90

Animal and vegetable fats and oils

Lard; other pig fat and poultry fat, rendered
 Fats of bovine animals, sheep or goats
 Lard stearin, lard oil, oleostearin and margarine
 Other animal fats and oils, excluding neat's foot oil for technical use
 Ground-nut oil
 Virgin oil
 Other olive oils, except crude ones
 Other oils, obtained solely from olives, excluding crudes and oil obtained from the chemical extraction of olive residues
 Palm oil
 Sunflower-seed, safflower or cotton-seed oil
 Coconut (copra), palm kernel or babassu oil
 Animal fats and oils, other than those obtained entirely from fish or from marine mammals
 Vegetable fats and oils, other than hydrogenated castor oil (opal vax) and re-esterified sesamum and mustard oils
 Margarine, excluding liquid margarine
 Other edible fats and oils

Chapter 16

	16.01
	16.02.10.00/50.00
ex	16.02.90.00
ex	19.02.20.00
ex	21.02.20.20/20.90
ex	21.04.20.90

Meat preparations

Sausages and similar products, of meat, meat offal or blood
 Other prepared or preserved meat, meat offal or blood
 Other prepared or preserved meat, meat offal or blood, excluding homogenised preparations in containers of a net weight content not exceeding 250g. put up for retail sale
 Stuffed pasta containing more than 20 % by weight of meat or meat offal
 Dead single-cell micro-organisms, excluding yeasts and alga
 Homogenised composite food preparations containing more than 20% by weight of meat or meat offal and containing small quantities of visible pieces of meat or meat offal

Chapter 20

20.01.10.10
20.01.90.40
20.01.90.91

Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants

Cucumbers and gherkins, in airtight containers, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid
 Pickles, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid
 Red beets, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid

	20.04.10.20/10.90	Other than pre-cooked French-fried potatoes, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid
	20.04.90.10	Peas, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid
	20.04.90.90	Other vegetables and mixtures of vegetables, prepared otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid
	20.05.10.00	Homogenised vegetables, prepared otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen
	20.05.20.90	Potatoes, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen
ex	20.05.40.00	Peas, prepared otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen, excluding products based on meals or flours or peas
	20.05.90.20	Cucumbers and gherkins, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen
ex	20.07	Jams, fruit jellies, marmalades, fruit or nut puree and fruit or nut pastes, being cooked preparations, whether or not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter, excluding products of citrus fruit, apple puree and chestnut puree
Chapter 23	23	Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder
	23.03	Residues of starch manufacture, waste of sugar manufacture, brewing or distilling dregs and waste, whether or not in the form of pellets
	23.04	Oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil
	23.05	Oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of ground-nut oil
	23.06	Oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats or oils, other than those of heading No. 23.04 or 23.05
	23.08	Vegetable materials and vegetable waste, vegetable residues and by-products, whether or not in the form of pellets, of a kind used in animal feeding, not elsewhere specified or included
ex	23.09.90.90	Other preparations of a kind used in animal feeding, excluding dog or cat food and fish solubles and vitamins for fodder or extrafodder

ex = The part mentioned is subject to licensing to the extent set out in the text.

Note: In case the product description of the tariff heading differs from the definition given in this text, the former description shall be applied.

ANNEXLIST OF COUNTRIES WHICH ARE GRANTED MULTILATERAL IMPORT
TREATMENT IN LICENSING

Afghanistan	Central African Republic
Albania	Chad
Algeria	Chile
Andorra	Easter Island
Angola	Juan Fernández Islands
Antigua and Barbuda	China
Argentina	Colombia
Armenia	Comoros
Australia	Congo
Christmas Islands	Costa Rica
Cocos Islands	Croatia
Norfolk Island	Cuba
The southern islands of Australia	Cyprus
Austria	Czech Republic
Azerbaijan	Denmark
Bahamas	Faeroe Islands
Bahrain	Greenland
Bangladesh	Djibouti
Barbados	Dominica
Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union	Dominican Republic
Belize	Ecuador
Belorussia	Galapagos Islands
Benin	Egypt
Bhutan	El Salvador
Bolivia	Equatorial Guinea
Botswana	Estonia
Brazil	Ethiopia
Brunei	Fiji
Bulgaria	France
Burkina Faso	French Antilles
Burma	(Guadeloupe, Martinique and French
Burundi	part of the Islands of Saint Martin)
Cambodia	French Guiana
Cameroon	French Polynesia
Canada	French southern islands in the Indian
Cape Verde	Ocean
	New Caledonia

Réunion	Moldavia
Saint-Pierre and Miquelon	Monaco
Gabon	Mongolia
Gambia	Morocco
Georgia	Mozambique
Germany	Namibia
Ghana	Nauru
Greece	Nepal
Grenada	Netherlands
Guatemala	Netherlands Antilles (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba Saint Eustatius and the Netherlands part of the Islands of Saint Martin)
Guinea	New Zealand
Guinea-Bissau	Chatham Islands
Guyana	Stewart Island
Haiti	Other outlying islands and Pacific islands
Honduras	Nicaragua
Hungary	Niger
Iceland	Nigeria
India	Norway
Union territories (Sikkim, etc.)	Bouvet Island
Indonesia	Jan Mayen
Iran	Peter I Island
Iraq	Svalbard
Ireland	Oman
Israel	Pakistan
Italy	Panama
Ivory Coast	Papua New Guinea
Jamaica	Paraguay
Japan	Peru
Jordan	Philippines
Kazakhstan	Poland
Kenya	Portugal
Kiribati	Azore
Korea, Republic of	Macao
Kuwait	Madeira
Kyrgyzstan	Qatar
Laos	Romania
Latvia	Russian Federation
Lebanon	Rwanda
Lesotho	Saint Christopher and Nevis
Liberia	Saint Lucia
Libya	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Lithuania	Samoa
Madagascar	San Marino
Malawi	São Tomé and Príncipe
Malaysia (Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak)	Saudi Arabia
Maldives	Senegal
Mali	Seychelles
Malta	Sierra Leone
Mauritania	
Mauritius	
Mexico	

Singapore
Slovakia, Republic of
Slovenia
Somalia
Solomon Islands
South Africa, Republic of
 Prince Edwards Islands
Spain
 Balearic Islands and Pine Islands
 Canaries
 Spanish Africa
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland and Liechtenstein
Syria
Taiwan
Tajikistan
Tanzania
Thailand
Togo
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
 Ascension
 Bermuda

British West Indies (Montserrat)
Falkland Islands
Gibraltar
Hong Kong
Labuan
Rodrigues and Diego Garcia
Tristan da Cunha
British Virgin Islands
United States
 American Samoa
 Canton and Enderbury Islands
 Caroline Islands
 Howland and Baker Islands
 Jarvis Island
 Johnstone Island
 Kure Island
 Mariana Islands
 Marshall Islands
 Midway
 Palmyra Island and Kingman Reef
 Wake Island
 Other trust territories in the Pacific
 Puerto Rico
 Swains Islands
 Virgin Islands of the United States
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Venezuela
Vietnam
Yemen
Yugoslavia
Zaire
Zambia
Zimbabwe