

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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NOTIFICATIONS OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS OF NEWLY INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES

Addendum

MADAGASCAR¹

I. Foreign currency quotas

As Madagascar belongs to the franc area, it has established a programme of importation from countries outside that area only.

The importation programme "outside the franc area" is divided into two parts according to the supplying countries.

1. European Economic Community quotas

The foreign exchange quotas established for the importation of products from EEC countries, other than France, are fixed according to the methods of calculation laid down in Protocol No. 2 of the Convention of Association (Convention of Association between the EEC and the Associated African and Malagasy States).

2. Global quotas

The foreign exchange credits of the global quotas can be used for all countries, including the EEC countries.

The importation programme is established for one year, but the quotas are opened half-yearly, except in the case of certain goods (for example, automobiles).

¹This notification, submitted in response to the invitation in GATT/AIR/534, describes Madagascar's quantitative restrictions system in its entirety; it is submitted without prejudice to the question of consistency of the restrictions with the provisions of the General Agreement. The notification is dated 11 March 1966.

The quotas are then distributed amongst the six provinces of the Island according to a percentage plan, taking into account in particular the importance of the population and its needs.

At the provincial level allocations of the quotas among importers are effected by a "provincial board" on the basis of the applications submitted by importers.

The applications procedure has the advantage not only of encouraging free competition among supplying countries, but also of allowing the allocation of foreign exchange to the importers who offer goods that best meet the needs and tastes of consumers.

II. Quantitative quotas and other restrictive measures

Goods of every kind may be imported into Madagascar. Nevertheless, there are certain prohibitions based on public health, public morality and public policy.

There are also certain quota restrictions in order to protect national industries.

It should be noted that these restrictions are applied to all countries under the same conditions.

The restriction consists in fixing every year a certain import quota, which is then allocated according to the conditions mentioned above.

The following products are subject to quota:

- edible oils
- batteries for electric accumulators
- cement
- beer
- second-hand clothing
- sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods
- casks and drums made of metal.

All these goods are produced in the country and the restrictions applied to them depend on their importance in the global economy of the country.

1. Edible oils

Under Decree No. 62-361 of 17 July 1962, the importation of edible oils irrespective of quality and origin is subject to a prior authorization. This measure applies to the following oils:

- groundnut oil:	tariff number	15.07.22
- olive oil:	tariff number	15.07.23
- cottonseed and soya oil:	tariff number	15.07.28
- coconut (copra) oil:	tariff number	15.07.29

The importation of edible oils of inferior quality is forbidden.

Oils of superior quality which comply with certain conditions concerning price and presentation are admitted only up to a variable quota, according to the situation.

2. Electric accumulator batteries

The importation into Malagasy customs territory of electric accumulator batteries (tariff no. 85.04.09) is governed by Decree No. 61-166 of 15 March 1961, amended by Decree No. 62-652 of 21 December 1962.

The quota to be opened is set at that part of the estimated requirements which is not likely to be covered by national production.

This measure, however, does not apply to accumulator batteries of cadmium-nickel, nor special batteries used by the Navy.

3. Used clothing

The importation into Madagascar of used clothing, clothing accessories, travelling rugs and blankets, household linen and furnishing articles of textile materials (tariff nos. 65.01.22, 23 and 90) is subject to the system of prior importation authorization (Decree of 1 February 1961).

4. Alcoholic beverages

The importation of alcoholic beverages is subject to prior authorization from the competent authorities.

As regards "vermouths and other wines of fresh grapes flavoured with aromatic extracts" (tariff nos. 22.06.09 and 10) and also "ethyl alcohol or neutral spirits, undenatured of a strength of less than 80 degrees and liqueurs and other spirituous beverages" (tariff nos. 22.09.53, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57 and 58), the quantity which may

be imported depends on the alcoholic content, whereas in the case of gin (tariff nos. 22.09.61 and 62) and liqueurs other than aperitif beverages, the quantities of the liquid itself constitute the decisive factor.

5. Beer (tariff nos. 22.05.01 and 02)

Beers, the alcoholic strength of which is less than 4 degrees, are completely forbidden, whereas other beers are admitted only if they satisfy strictly defined packing conditions. The beer must be contained:

- either in bottles of 55 centilitres called "Appollinaris", with a height of between 221.5 and 228 millimetres and a diameter of between 62.5 and 64 millimetres;

- or in bottles of 65 or 66 centilitres of a shape called "illoise" with a height of between 259 and 287 millimetres and a diameter of between 76 and 79 millimetres;

- or finally, in metal containers of from 55 to 55 centilitres, the shape of which is optional.

6. Cement (tariff no. 25.25.00)

The importation of cement is prohibited on a part of the Western coast of Madagascar comprised between, but not including, the territorial area of competence of the Chamber of Commerce of Diégo-Suarez and the territorial area of competence of the Chamber of Commerce of Fort-Dauphin, which is also excluded (Decree No. 62-466 of 19 September 1962, amended by Decree No. 63-055 of 30 January 1963 and by Decree No. 63-651 of 21 November 1963).

Moreover, the importation of cement in other parts of the territory is subject to payment of a charge of 2,000 Madagascar francs per metric ton.

These measures do not apply to special cements not locally produced or to cements intended for carrying out works financed by foreign assistance funds, on condition that they have been duly certified. In that case, the visa of the General Directorate of Public Works is necessary for the special cements and the visa of the General Commissariat of the Plan for cements intended for works financed by foreign assistance funds.

7. Sacks and bags, of the kind used for the packing of goods
(tariff nos. 62.03.01, 62.03.05, 62.03.07 and 62.03.11)

The importation of new sacks and bags for packing of goods is forbidden.

The importation of used sacks and bags (tariff nos. 62.03.03, 06, 012 and 08) is subject to prior authorization.

8. Casks and drums made of metal (tariff no. 73.23.00)

The importation of used casks and drums made of metal is subject to prior authorization.