

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). Many imports from these countries have been liberalized and remaining quotas are to be removed before June 1968 in accordance with the Convention.

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/LIR/534, describes Madagascar's quantitative restrictions system in its entirety; it is submitted for information without prejudice to the question of consistency of the restrictions with the provisions of the General Agreement. The notification is dated March 1968. For previous notification see L/2577/Add.5.

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 and other restrictions in order to protect national industries.

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

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

The following products are subject to restriction:

- edible oils
- batteries for electric accumulators
- alcoholic beverages
- beer
- second-hand clothing
- sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods
- casks and drums made of metal
- bonbons
- biscuits
- shoes
- blankets
- tomato concentrate
- paper, cardboard and articles thereof
- cement and soap
- ploughs and hand tools
- television receivers

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. 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.

4. Beer (tariff nos. 22.03.01 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 33 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 269 and 287 millimetres and a diameter of between 76 and 79 millimetres;
- or finally, in metal containers of from 33 to 35 centilitres, the shape of which is optional.

5. 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. 63.01.22, 23 and 90) is subject to the system of prior importation authorization (Decree of 1 February 1961).

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Sugar confectionery, biscuits, footwear, rugs and blankets

The importation of the following products is subject to prior authorization by Decree No. 66-306 of 12 July 1966:

(a) Footwear

Footwear of leather or leather substitutes (tariff no. 64-02-10) for men, size 27 or above (French standard sizes) of which the c.i.f. price before customs clearance is less than FMG 1,600 per pair; for women, size 24 or above (French standard sizes) of which the c.i.f. price before customs clearance is less than FMG 1,500 per pair.

(b) Biscuits

Biscuits without cocoa (tariff no. 19-08-22) of which the c.i.f. price before customs clearance is less than FMG 400 per kilo.

(c) Sugar confectionery

Boiled sugar confectionery without cocoa (tariff no. ex 17-04) of which the c.i.f. price before customs clearance is less than FMG 400 per kilo.

(d) Rugs and blankets

Rugs and blankets of cotton, wool or other textiles (tariff nos. 62-01-11, 62-01-16, 62-01-19) of which the c.i.f. price before customs clearance is less than FMG 500 per kilo.

9. Tomato concentrates

The importation of tomato concentrates with a dry-weight content less than 28 per cent of whatever origin, is subject to prior authorization applicable from 14 July 1966, date of the publication of Notice No. 932 to importers.

10. Paper and paperboard, articles of paper or paperboard

Notice No. 933 to importers, dated 10 August 1966, suspends the importation of paper, paperboard and paper articles listed below, whatever may be their origin:

- paper and paperboard in sheets weighing between 180 and 300 grammes per square metre (tariff no. ex 48-01-71);
- paper in sheets weighing between 30 and 180 grammes per square metre (tariff no. ex 48-01-90);
- paper and paperboard, ruled, lined or squared, weighing 250 grammes or less per square metre, in sheets (tariff no. 48-06-11);
- toilet paper (tariff no. 48-15-21);
- stationery, ruled, lined or squared or not (tariff no. ex 48-15-31);
- exercise books and notebooks (with or without index), memorandum blocks (tariff no. 48-18-01);
- file covers in paper or paperboard weighing less than 250 grammes per square metre (tariff no. 18-18-04).

11. Cement and soap

Notice No. 951 to importers, dated 5 December 1967, which abrogated Notices Nos. 935 of 31 November 1966 and 936 of 20 December 1966, stipulates that:

"Any customs clearance of cement and household soap is subject to the presentation of a bill of lading of the same products bearing on an equivalent tonnage and coming from Senegal for cement and from Senegal and Ivory Coast for soap."

It is nevertheless clearly stated that the importation of cement for work financed by FAC, FED or other international bodies - justified according to the usual procedure - is not subject to this tied-trading system. The same applies to special cements.

12. Ploughs and hand tools of a kind used in agriculture, horticulture or forestry

The importation of animal-drawn ploughs (tariff no. 84-24-11) of a weight equal to or less than 60 kilos and hand tools of a kind used in agriculture, horticulture or forestry (tariff no. 82-01-00) of whatever origin is suspended in accordance with Notice No. 954 to importers dated 14 February 1968.

13. Television apparatus

Decree No. 65/673 of 6 October 1965 grants the sales monopoly of cathode-ray tubes for television receivers (ex 85-21-90) to the Compagnie Générale de T.S.F. or to a company it has created, the Compagnie Industrielle de Radio et Télévision (CIRT).

There are two derogations to this decree: first, an authorization obtained from the Minister of Equipment and Communications, second, the import of complete sets carried in their luggage by travellers who have resided at least six months outside Madagascar and which have been acquired during at least an equivalent period before their embarkation to a Malagasy port.

