

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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25 September 1979

Limited Distribution

Original: French

## GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

### Notification by Switzerland

#### Addendum

The following communication dated 10 September has been received from the delegation of Switzerland.

On 5 June 1979, the Federal Council decided to amend the Ordinance of 2 June 1975 concerning the rules of origin regulating the granting of tariff preferences to developing countries. These amendments take account of decisions adopted at international and national level.

Amendments based on international decisions:

#### Article 8

The time-limit for production of certificates of origin, Form A, which was five months for consignments transported direct from the beneficiary country to Switzerland has been abolished. Consequently, there remains only a single time-limit of ten months applicable in all traffic.

#### Article 16

With the addition of a fourth paragraph to this Article, developing countries now have the possibility of drawing up, in the language of their choice, the notes on the back of the certificate of origin, Form A. Nevertheless, on the front of the certificate the text must always be in English or in French.

#### Article 13, second paragraph; 24 to 26; Annex V

In order to rationalize formalities a new form, APR, similar to the Form EUR.2 used for trade within the European free-trade area has been adopted; this simplified certificate of origin (reproduced in the Annex to the Ordinance) is modelled on the international customs declaration for parcel post and is intended exclusively for postal consignments of a value not exceeding Sw F 5,500. The old Form APR can be used until the end of 1980.

A national decision amending Annex II of the Ordinance has the effect of:

deleting heading 1604 in list A.

The deletion of this heading represents a liberalization that is beneficial in particular to small developing countries having no fishing fleet. Consequently, the character of originating product henceforth covers products falling within heading 1604 after manufacturing or adequate processing.

Ordinance

concerning the rules of origin regulating the granting of tariff preferences to developing countries

Amendment of 5 June 1979

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The Swiss Federal Council orders as follows:

I

The Ordinance of 2 July 1975<sup>1/</sup> concerning the rules of origin regulating the granting of tariff preferences to developing countries is hereby amended as follows:

Article 8

The certificate of origin, Form A, must be presented to the Swiss customs office through which the products are imported within ten months following the date of its issue by the competent government authority of the exporting beneficiary country.

Article 13, second paragraph

2. For the application of the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Swiss customs authorities shall return the certificate of origin, Form A, or the Form APR to the competent government authority of the exporting country, indicating where necessary the reasons of substance or form that justify an enquiry. They shall attach to the Form APR, if produced, the invoice or a copy thereof and shall furnish all particulars that have been obtained and give reason for thinking that the indications given on the said certificate, Form A, or on the Form APR, are incorrect.

Article 16, fourth paragraph

4. It shall not be compulsory for the notes on the back of the certificate to be in English or in French.

Article 24

1. Form APR, which must be consistent with the model in Annex V to this Ordinance, shall be filled out and signed by the exporter or, under his responsibility, by his agent. It shall be filled out in English or in French

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<sup>1/</sup>RS946.39

by typewriter or by hand; in the latter case it shall be filled out in ink and in block capitals. The signature in box 6 of the Form must be handwritten.

2. The size of the Form APR shall be 210 x 148 mm, with a permissible deviation in length of not more than 5 mm less and 8 mm more. The paper to be used shall be white, free of mechanical pulp, sized for inking.

3. Each Form shall bear a serial number, printed or not, for identification purposes.

4. It shall not be compulsory for the notes appended to the Form APR to be in English or in French.

#### Article 25

1. A Form APR shall be made out for each postal consignment.

2. After having filled out and signed the Form APR, the exporter shall attach it to the despatch note in the case of consignment by parcel post, or shall enclose the Form in the package in the case of consignment by letter post. In addition, the reference "APR" and the serial number of the Form shall be stated on the customs green label declaration C1 or on the customs declaration C2/CP3.

#### Article 26

If the goods contained in the consignment have already been verified in the exporting country, taking into account the definition applicable to "originating products", the exporter may insert a reference to that verification in the "remarks" box of Form APR.

#### Annex II (list A)

Paragraph 1604 shall be deleted.

#### Annex V (Form APR)

Form APR shall be replaced by the model reproduced in the Annex to this Ordinance.

II

The present amendment shall enter into force on 1 July 1979.

5 June 1979

For the Swiss Federal Council:

President of the Confederation, Rürlimann  
Chancellor of the Confederation, Huber

Part 1

<b>FORM APR No. A</b>		<b>1 Form used for the Generalized System of Preferences</b>	
<b>2 Exporter</b> (Name, full address, country)  <b>4 Consignee</b> (Name, full address, country)		<b>3 Declaration by the exporter</b> I, the undersigned, exporter of the goods described below, declare that the goods comply with the requirements for the completion of this form and that the goods have obtained the status of originating products within the provisions governing the Generalized System of Preferences to be exported to the country shown in Box 9.	
		<b>5 Place and date</b>	
<b>7 Origin Criterion (1), remarks (2)</b>		<b>6 Signature of exporter</b>	
		<b>8 Country of origin</b>	<b>9 Country of destination (3)</b>
		<b>10 Gross weight (kg)</b>	
<b>11 Marks, numbers of consignment and description of goods</b>		<b>12 Authority in the exporting country responsible for verification of the declaration by the exporter</b>	

Before completing this form read carefully the instructions on the back of part 1 and the notes on part 2

(Front)

- (1) See Notes on part 2
- (2) Refer to any verification already carried out by the appropriate authorities.
- (3) Insert the countries, groups of countries or territories concerned.



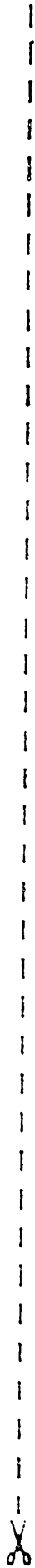
(Back)

<p><b>13</b> <b>Request for verification</b> The verification of the declaration by the exporter on the front of this form is requested (*)</p> <p>..... (Place and date)</p> <p>..... (Signature)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Stamp</p>	<p><b>14</b> <b>Result of verification</b> Verification carried out shows that (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the statements and particulars given in this form are accurate.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> this form does not meet the requirements as to accuracy and authenticity (see remarks appended).</p> <p>..... (Place and date)</p> <p>..... (Signature)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Stamp</p> <p>(1) Place an X where applicable.</p>
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(\*) Subsequent verifications of forms APR shall be carried out at random or whenever the customs authorities of the importing country have reasonable doubt as to the accuracy of the information regarding the authenticity of the forms and the true origin of the goods in question.

**Instructions for the completion of form APR**

1. A form APR may be made out only for goods which in the exporting country fulfil the conditions specified by provisions governing the Generalized System of Preferences. These provisions must be studied carefully before the form is completed. (See notes on part 2)
2. In the case of a consignment by parcel post the exporter attaches the form to the despatch note. In the case of consignment by letter post he encloses the form in the package. The reference APR and the serial number of the form should be stated on the Customs green label declaration C1 or on the Customs declaration C2/CP3, as appropriate.
3. These instructions do not exempt the exporter from complying with any other formalities required by customs or postal regulations.
4. An exporter who uses this form is obliged to submit to the appropriate authorities any supporting evidence which they may require and to agree to any inspection by them of his accounts and of the processes of manufacture of the goods described in box 11 of this form.



**NOTES**

**Part 2**

**1 Countries which accept this form for the purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)**

Austria  
Finland  
Norway  
Sweden  
Switzerland

European Economic Community:  
Belgium  
Denmark  
France  
Federal Republic of Germany

Ireland  
Italy  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
United Kingdom

Details of the rules governing admission to GSP in these countries are obtainable from the Customs authorities there. The main elements of the rules are indicated in the following paragraphs

**2 Conditions.** The main conditions for admission to preference are that goods sent to any of the countries listed above

- (i) must fall within a description of goods eligible for preference in the country of destination, and
- (ii) must comply with the consignment conditions specified by the country of destination. In general, goods must be consigned direct from the country of exportation to the country of destination, but in most cases passage through one or more intermediate countries, with or without transshipment, is accepted provided that at the time they are exported the goods are clearly intended for the declared country of destination and that any intermediate transit, transshipment or temporary warehousing arises only from the requirements of transportation, and
- (iii) must comply with the origin criteria specified for those goods by the country of destination. A summary indication of the rules generally applicable is given in paragraphs 3 and 4

**3 Origin Criteria.** For exports to the above mentioned countries the position is that either

- (i) the goods shall be wholly produced in the country of exportation, that is, they should fall within a description of goods which is accepted as 'wholly produced' under the rules prescribed by the country of destination concerned, or
- (ii) alternatively, if the goods are manufactured wholly or partly from materials or components imported into the country of exportation or of undetermined origin these materials or components must have undergone a substantial transformation there into a different product. It is important to note that all materials and components which cannot be shown to be of that country's origin must be treated as if they were imported. Usually the transformation must be such as to lead to the exported goods being classified under a Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature tariff heading other than that relating to any of the above materials or components used. In addition, special rules are prescribed for various classes of goods in Lists A and B of certain countries' rules of origin and other subsidiary provisions and these should be carefully studied

If the goods qualify under the above criteria, the exporter must indicate in Box 7 of the origin criteria on the basis of which he claims that his goods qualify for the GSP, in the manner shown in the following table:

Circumstances of production or manufacture in the country named in Box 8 of the form	Insert in Box 7
(a) Goods, worked upon but not wholly produced in the exporting country, which were produced in conformity with the principles of para 3 (ii), which fall under a CCC Nomenclature tariff heading specified in Column 1 of List A and which satisfy any conditions in Columns 3 and 4 of List A which are relevant to these goods.	*A*, followed by the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature heading number of the exported goods example: *A* 74.07
(b) Goods, worked upon but not wholly produced in the exporting country, which fall within an item in Column 1 of List B and which comply with provisions of that item.	*B*, followed by the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature heading number of the exported goods example: *B* 73.15
(c) Goods, worked upon but not wholly produced in the exporting country, which were produced in conformity with principles of para 3 (ii), which are not specifically referred to in List A, and which do not contravene a general provision of List A	*X*, followed by the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature heading number of the exported goods example: *X* 98.02
(d) Goods wholly produced in the country of exportation (see para. 3 (i) above).	*P*

NOTE "List A" and "List B" refer to the lists of qualifying processes specified by the countries of importation concerned