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TARIFFS AND TRADE

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REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

TURKEY

Revision

The following notification has been received from the delegation of Turkey. It contains information in response to the questionnaire on import licensing procedures annexed to document L/5640/Rev.4. The present document updates and replaces the information appearing in L/5640/Add.29/Rev.2.

I refer to GATT/AIR/2596 and have the honour to transmit herewith the updated version of document L/5640/Add.29/Rev.2 concerning the notification by Turkey on licensing as well as the new list of products subject to the import permit system.

In keeping with the liberalization policy followed by the Government of Turkey, the number of products for which import authorization is required passed from 601 tariff lines in 1985 to 245 in 1986 and to 111 in 1987. At present the list contains only a very limited number of products classified under 33 tariff lines.

I should therefore be grateful if you would kindly circulate the attached list and information, emphasising the continuing liberalization efforts of the Turkish authorities in the foreign trade field.

Importing Licensing Procedures

1. As a result of the import liberalization policy which was first put into effect in January 1984, the list of goods subject to permits is revised every year (see Annex). Companies wishing to import goods included in that list which at the moment covers 33 items, need to apply to the Under-Secretariat for Treasury and Foreign Trade. The application must contain information on the good's characteristics, the quality to be imported and its value, as well as its tariff position. Having examined the application, the Under-Secretariat issues the permit.

In order to facilitate this procedure, permits for goods to be imported by industrialists and exporters for their own production and export activities, and whose value does not exceed US\$ 25,000 annually, can be issued by the Chambers or Exporters Union (Union) to which they belong.

Moreover, permits for goods to be imported by minor industrialists or producers who are the members of Chambers, international transportation firms, tourism companies possessing the tourism certificate and exporters not a member of the Union for their own production or activities and whose value does not exceed US\$ 10,000 annually, can be issued by the Chambers which they belong.

Copies of the applications approved by the Under-Secretariat or the Chamber or Union concerned, are sent to the importer and to the relevant branch of the Central Bank, together with the permit. Changes to be made to certified invoices or applications approved by Chambers or Unions, are examined and finalized by them.

Companies wishing to import goods not subject to permits apply directly to the authorized banks which issue the licence.

2. The permit system is applied only to the 33 items presently included in the list of goods whose import is subject to permits.

Other products can be imported freely and without permits, except for narcotics, stearoptene, weapons, their ammunition and spare parts and coins made of silver or other metals whose importation is prohibited.

3. The system is applied to all countries without discrimination.

4. The system does not include any restriction with respect to quantity or value. The objectives of the procedure are as follows:

- Obtaining statistical information;
- Preventing increases in prices, protecting the consumer by ensuring competition in domestic production, thus raising its quality;
- Preventing increases in the prices of goods, whose domestic production or distribution is insufficient, discouraging imports of

smuggled goods, and assessing circumstances which might require the protection of some sectors;

- Liberalizing foreign trade as much as possible;
- Ensuring a smooth flow of imports;
- Developing measures aimed at preventing the importation of goods of low quality and prices;
- Facilitating the importation of products used for the manufacture of exportable goods;
- Ensuring the stability of the import régime and making it easier to understand.

5. The Council of Ministers is empowered by Law No. 2976 to take administrative decisions with respect to foreign trade. The Council of Ministers has transferred this authority to the Under-Secretariat for Treasury and Foreign Trade.

Decrees adopted by the Council of Ministers or by the Under-Secretariat on its behalf, are published in the Official Gazette.

6. There exist no import quotas in Turkey.

7. Applications by importers to the Under-Secretariat, for the issuance of permits, are processed within three to five days. The Under-Secretariat forwards the original permit to the importer and its copy to the relevant Central Bank branch. Permits are valid for six months. The bank issues the import licence on the strength of the permit and accomplishes the foreign currency transfer. The validity of this licence is also six months.

The applications for permits are examined only by the Under-Secretariat (or in cases such as the ones mentioned in response to Question 1, by the relevant Union or Chamber). Imports for the manufacture of chemicals and pharmaceuticals used in agriculture or animal husbandry as well as foodstuffs need the prior approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Affairs. Imports of products affecting human health (pharmaceuticals or their inputs) require the permission of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

8. Applications for permits can be turned down when domestic production is deemed sufficient from the point of view of quality and quantity to meet domestic requirements, when the application is made for a product used in industry but by a firm not connected to the relevant sector, when the product in question is considered incompatible with domestic requirements or when the importer has been fined. If he wishes, the importer can make use of the procedures foreseen by the laws to obtain redress.

9. Any company can apply for a permit to import a product included in the list of goods subject to permits. However, in principle imports from countries where foreign trade has been nationalized are restricted to

public-sector companies and a number of export-trading companies. The list of these companies is annexed to the Import Régime. Other companies can import from the same countries a total value of goods corresponding to the total value of their export to these countries.

10. The documents required by the Under-Secretariat in order to process applications for import permits for products in the list of goods subject to permits are as follows:

- Application form for foreign currency;
- Bank receipt;
- In the case of industrialists importing for their own needs, an undertaking to that effect;
- capacity report for industrialists (needed once a year).

11. The documents required for actual importation are as follows:

- Importer's certificate: all professional importers are required to hold a valid importer's certificate;
- Import licence: document issued by the Central Bank or other authorized bank for the withdrawal of imported goods from customs;
- Receipt attesting to the payment of the duty;
- Customs declaration.

12. There exists no fee or charge for the issuance of a permit. Except in cases specified by the Under-Secretariat, importers must deposit a guarantee for imports of all goods, whether subject to permit or liberalized. The deposit amounts to 7 per cent of the foreign currency required, as from 1 May 1988.

13. Importers need to deposit in a bank the Turkish lira equivalent of the guarantee at the rate laid down in the relevant article of the Import Régime.

However, imports financed with foreign credits of a term of more than one year or made by the Presidency, Ministry of National Defense, National Intelligence Organization, General Command of Gendarmerie, General Directorate of Customs Guards or for the imports of NATO or imports of special vehicles for handicapped persons, books and publications, crude oil, natural gas, electric energy, fuel, wheat, sugar, coal (27.01.10, 27.04.20, 27.04.31) fertilizers and their raw materials, vegetable oils, pharmaceuticals and their raw materials, vaccines and serums, X-ray films, imports through the International Izmir Fair and imports with encouragement certificate of investment for regions having priority in development, do not require the deposit of a guarantee.

14. The validity of permits is for six months. They can be extended by intermediary banks for a total of twelve months, upon payment of a monthly fee of 0.1 per cent of the total required foreign currency.

15. The guarantee deposited for the unused part of the import permit is transferred to the State, unless a case of "force-majeure" exists.

16. Import permits cannot be transferred by one importer to another. Imports have to be made by the company to which foreign currency has been allocated. There exist special provisions for trustees.

Requests for trusteeship are made to the banks. Applications based on import permits or licences need to be made during their period of validity. When the request has been made in the correct form, the import licence is cancelled by the issuing bank which then issues a new one in the name of the trustee. This new licence needs to be produced to the relevant authorities along with the old one.

17. No other conditions exist for the issuance of import permits.

18. There exists no other procedure to be complied with prior to importation.

19. When the Turkish lira equivalent of the amount requested for importation is deposited at the bank, foreign currency is allocated by it. In the case of goods whose importation is subject to a permit, the permit needs to be presented to the bank, for foreign currency to be allocated.

LA LISTE DES PRODUITS DONT L'IMPORTATION EST SOUMISE
A AUTORISATION

<u>No.</u>	<u>Tarif turc</u>	<u>Désignation des produits</u>
1.	15.07.11-40	Huile d'olive
2.	28.48.42	Seulement carbonate de Sodium et d'aluminium déhydroxydé
3.	29.14.35	Anhydride acétique
4.	29.14.44	Seulement ibuprophène
5.	29.16.75	Acide acétylsalicylique
6.	29.23.71	Seulement acide méphanamique
7.	29.23.99	Seulement aluminium glycinate, éthambutol, voltéram
8.	29.25.49,83	Seulement oxétacaine et paracétamol
9.	29.35	Seulement citrate d'oxalamine, triméthoprime, méphénoxalane acide 6-amino pénicillanique, acide 7-amino désacétoxy- céphalosporanique, helmitol, nifédipine, ranitidin HCL, dimétidine.
10.	29.39.60	Seulement betamethasone 17 valerate, micronisé, betamethasone micronisé alcool, betamethasone disodium phosphate, beclamethasone dipropionate
11.	29.42.61-62	Cocaïne et ses sels
12.	29.44	Seulement ampicilline trihydrate, ampicilline trihydrate stérile, ampicilline anhydre, amoxicilline trihydrate céphalexine monohydrate, tétracycline, érythromycine base, érythromycine stéarate, érythromycine éthyl succinate, oxytétracycline, sulfate de gentamicine, rifampicine, ampicilline de sodium stérile, céfradine monohydrate, cefadroxyle monohydrate
13.	29.45.15	Isopropylate d'aluminium
14.	36.01	Poudres à tirer
	36.02	Explosifs préparés
	36.04	Mèches; cordeaux détonnants, amorces et capsules fulminantes; allumeurs; détonateurs
	36.05	Articles de pyrotechnie (artifices, pétards, amorces paraffinées, fusées paragrêles et similaires)
	36.08.31	Combustibles solides
	36.08.39	Autres

<u>No.</u>	<u>Tarif turc</u>	<u>Désignation des produits</u>
15.	48.01.91	Papier pour billets de banque et autres valeurs
16.	49.07	Timbres poste, timbres fiscaux et analogues non oblitérés, ayant cours ou destinés à avoir cours dans le pays de destination; papier timbré, billets de banque, titres d'actions ou d'obligations et autres titres similaires y compris les carnets de chèques et analogues.
17.	63.01	Articles et accessoires d'habillement, usés, couvertures, linge de maison et articles d'ameublement (autres que les articles visés aux Nos. 58.01, 58.02 et 58.03) en matière textiles, chaussures et coiffures en toutes matières, portant des traces appréciables d'usage et présentés en vrac ou en balles, sacs ou conditionnements similaires.
18.	69.02	Briques, dalles, carreaux et autres pièces analogues de construction réfractaires.
19.	73.03	Ferrailles, déchets et débris d'ouvrages de fonte, de fer ou d'acier
20.	73.15.21,64, 51,52.	Seulement barres et fils nus ou revêtus (à l'exclusion des fils isolés pour l'électricité)
21.	74.01.10,25	Cuivre électrolitique et déchets et débris de cuivre.
22.	76.01.21-30	Déchets et débris d'aluminium
23.	79.01	Zinc brut, déchets et débris de zinc.
24.	82.09	Couteaux à lame tranchante ou dentelée y compris les serpettes fermantes, (autres que les couteaux du No. 82.06) et leurs lames (autres que celles du No. 82.09.12)
25.	84.06	Moteurs à explosion ou à combustion interne à pistons. (84.06.11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32, 33, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 49, 51, 59, 62, 64, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98) (à l'exclusion des chemises de cylindre).
26.	84.45	Machines-outils pour le travail des métaux et des carbures métalliques autres que celles des Nos. 84.49, 84.50 et (à l'exclusion des machines des Nos. 84.45.11, 15, 16, 19, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 60, 61, 65, 67, 72, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 92, 93, 95, 96 et 97)
27.	85.01	Machines génératrices, moteurs, convertisseurs rotatifs ou statiques (redresseurs, etc.) transformateurs, bobines de réactance et selfs. (à l'exclusion des Nos. 85.01.10, 21-33, 41-48, 62, 63, 71-74, 91). Seulement 85.01.99 (à l'exclusion des noyaux au ferrite et aux composants ferrites et des bobines de démagnétisation).

<u>No.</u>	<u>Tarif turc</u>	<u>Désignation des produits</u>
28.	85.19	Appareillage pour la coupure, le sectionnement, la protection, le branchement ou la connexion des circuits électriques (interrupteurs, commutateurs, relais, coupe-circuits, parafoudres, étaleurs d'onde, prises de courant, douilles pour lampes, boîte de fonction etc.), résistances non chauffantes, potentiomètres et rhéostats, circuits imprimés, tableaux de commande ou de distribution (à l'exclusion des tableaux de distribution téléphonique et de ceux des Nos. 85.19.81, 85 et 85.19.21), (autres que des ampoules de démarreurs et des démarreurs sous la position 85.19.21 ainsi que 85.19.54, 71, 73, 75, 81, 85, 86, 89, 91).
29.	87.06	Parties, pièces détachées et accessoires des véhicules automobiles repris aux Nos. 87.01, 87.02 et 87.03 (à l'exclusion de systèmes de direction hydraulique utilisés dans les camions autobus et remorqueurs, réceptacles des axes arrières des camions, remorqueurs, minibus, midibus, autobus et camionnettes, les boîtes de vitesse, différentiels et roues dentées des tracteurs utilisés pour l'agriculture, sous la position, 87.06.95, excepté, les boîtes de vitesse, différentiels et roues dentées des camions, sous la position 87.06.96, les jantes ainsi que certaines pièces détachées, et accessoires sous la position 87.06.91-94)
30.	89.04	Bateaux à dépecer
31.	90.10.52	Appareils de photocopie à système par contact.
32.	93.04 93.06 93.07	Seulement les fusils de chasse sans rayures et leurs parties leurs pièces détachées, leurs projectiles et munitions.
33.	Divers	Pour l'industrie de montage et l'importation spécifique.