

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/LIC/N/1/HKG/2  
G/LIC/N/2/HKG/1  
19 November 1996

(96-4913)

Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

## AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

### Notification under Articles 5 and 8.2(b)

#### HONG KONG

The following communication, dated 21 October 1996, has been received from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office.

Pursuant to Articles 5 and 8 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, I submit herewith a notification on a Control System for the Import and Export of Waste introduced by the Government of Hong Kong with effect from 1 September 1996.

#### **I. Notification under Article 5**

(a) List of products subject to licensing procedures:

The list of waste subject to control is listed in Schedules 6 and 7 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance. A permit is required for import of any waste, unless the waste is specified in Schedule 6 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance, and it is uncontaminated and is intended for recycling or reuse purposes. The Schedules are reproduced in the Appendices of "A Guide to the Control on Import and Export of Waste".

(b) Contact point for information on eligibility:

Waste and Water Management Group, Environmental Protection Department, 9/F World Trade Square Tower I, 123 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

(c) Administrative body for submission of applications:

Same as above.

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- (d) Date and name of publication where licensing procedures are published:

"A guide to the Control on Import and Export of Waste" ([Appendix 1<sup>1</sup>](#)) and "Guidance notes on how to complete a permit application form" ([Appendix II<sup>1</sup>](#)) issued by the Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department, September 1996.

- (e) Indication of whether the licensing procedure is automatic or non-automatic according to definitions contained in Articles 2 and 3:

The import permit procedure is non-automatic according to definitions contained in Articles 2 and 3 of the Agreement.

- (f) In the case of automatic import licensing procedures, their administrative purpose:

Not applicable.

- (g) In the case of non-automatic import licensing procedures, indication of the measure being implemented through the licensing procedure:

The permit system basically serves to ensure environmentally sound management of waste in Hong Kong. Its requirements are outlined in the attached documents (Appendices I and II) and tie in with those of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. It thus enables Hong Kong to fulfil its international obligations under the Basel Convention.

- (h) Expected duration of the licensing procedure if this can be estimated with some probability, and if no, reason why this information cannot be provided:

There is no end date to the control system as there is an on-going need to ensure environmentally sound management of waste in Hong Kong and to fulfil Hong Kong's obligation under the Basel Convention.

## **II. Notification under Article 8.2(b)**

A copy of the Waste Disposal Ordinance is attached ([Appendix III<sup>1</sup>](#)).

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<sup>1</sup>Available for consultation in the Secretariat (Market Access Division).