

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/ALB/13/Add.1

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ACCESSION OF ALBANIA

Communication from Albania

Addendum

The following complementary Information on State-trading has been received from the Ministry of Industry, Transport and Trade of the Republic of Albania.

The attached material is a profile of an Albanian trading enterprise. It complements other information that has been provided to the Working party on the subject of State-trading enterprises, in particular answers to the Questionnaire on State-trading Enterprises (WT/ACC/ALB/13).

PROFILE OF A STATE-OWNED TRADING ENTERPRISE

1. Name: ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT
2. Activities:
 - Import: Yes
 - Export: Yes
 - Production: No
 - Storage: Yes (can arrange for client upon request)
 - Transportation: Yes (can arrange for client)
 - Marketing: Sometimes, but not a major activity
 - Financing: Have the right to offer trade finance services to clients, but rarely do so. Financing is on market terms.
3. Size: Over the past several years the number of employees has decreased from about 150 to about 30 now.
4. Ownership: Currently 100 percent State-owned. Dependent on the Ministry of Industry, Transport and Trade. The paperwork has been done in preparation for privatization.
5. Control: Overall management is exercised by a Board of Directors appointed by the State. Day-to-day business decisions are taken by the General Director and staff according to their analysis of market conditions. Purchase, sale and pricing decisions are made independently and according to market conditions.
6. Special Rights or Privileges: None. ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT does not have a monopoly (either partial or total), or any special rights or privileges for the import or export of any commodity.
7. Financial or Other Support from the State: Employees are paid by the State. Otherwise no financial support.
8. Reasons why the State owns or has a Participation in this Enterprise: The intention is to privatize this enterprise. Until then, ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT makes a contribution to the State in that any profits realized by ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT go to the State, reflecting the fact that the enterprise is wholly State-owned.
9. Data on imports and exports: See attached table.
10. Other remarks: In summary, ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT acts as an agent for Albanian firms wishing to import or export commodities of almost any kind. It also participates from time to time, and on an equal basis with private firms, in tender offers for Government procurement.

ARTEKSPORT-IMPORT

IMPORT DATA FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS 1996
AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NATIONAL IMPORTS

Commodity	Value 000 lek	National Total	% of Total
Food oil	47.0	809.7	5.8
Sugar	58.0	1,932.6	3.0
Glue	10.2	15,126.3	0.06