

**Committee on Subsidies
and Countervailing Measures**

Original: English

**IMPLEMENTATION-RELATED ISSUES REFERRED
TO THE COMMITTEE IN THE 15 DECEMBER 2000 DECISION
OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

Communication from Norway

The following communication has been received, on 23 July 2001, from the Permanent Mission of Norway.

A summary of the Norwegian drawback system.

Norway has a drawback system for imports used in the production of goods for export, for goods exported in an unchanged condition, and a partial drawback for goods imported temporarily to Norway for certain uses. Customs authorities may grant individual drawbacks or grant a general drawback according to the specifications in the Norwegian Customs Tariff.

The drawback system for imports includes imports of raw materials or products used in the production, repair, finishing and/or packing of goods for export. Normally these products must be imported and exported by the manufacturer. Products may also be exported through special sales organizations or be delivered to a customs warehouse for later exportation.

In special cases, repayment may be granted for raw materials, etc., that have not been imported by the exporter. Such repayment may in addition, be granted when processing mentioned above has occurred in several steps (max. 3) by manufacturers working in cooperation. Each link must be able to substantiate the production process.

The drawback is equivalent to the import duty paid for the used raw materials, etc. Customs duty can also be repaid when other goods than those imported are used on the condition that these are the same types as those for which documentation is available. Import duty may also be repaid for goods that are lost, wasted or destroyed during manufacturing under the condition that wasted material cannot be used for other purposes.

Drawbacks are granted when the goods are exported within two years of importation. An application for drawback must be made within 1 year of exportation. These time limits may be extended in special cases. The exportation requirement may be dropped when the goods are destroyed at the owner's cost under the control of Customs or other government authority.

Partial drawback may be granted for:

- rolling railroad equipment and spare parts which have been imported for temporary use. The repayment is calculated on the basis of duty minus 2 per cent for every month or partial month since the goods were imported.
- leased or loaned goods that have been temporarily imported, or used by foreign companies, institutions, or individuals for their work or to fulfill a contract. The drawback is the duty with a deduction of 5 per cent for each month or partial month since the goods were imported.

The imported goods are under the supervision of the importer after duty has been paid. The Customs Authorities do not in any way follow the matter and it is the sole responsibility of the manufacturer to apply for a drawback after the finished product is exported.

It is not necessary to apply ahead of time. There are no restrictions on the types of goods that are covered by the system. The minimum drawback for each export declaration is NKr 40; however, there is no minimum bill of entry.

In order to receive the drawback, the manufacturer must send an application to the local customs authorities with:

- a bill of entry and invoice
 - the declaration of export and supporting invoice
 - a written statement from the manufacturer providing a description of the amount of raw materials etc. used in the production of the finished exported good
 - and the computation of the drawback.
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