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Committee on Import Licensing

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## REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES<sup>1</sup>

### NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7.3 OF THE AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES (2023)

MACAO, CHINA

The following communication, dated 29 August 2023, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Macao, China.

#### Contents

<b>1 MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS BUREAU .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Live animals, meat, animal products, fish, crustaceans and molluscs, vegetables, live plants, seeds, mushroom spawn and animal or vegetable fertilisers.....	2
<b>2 MACAO HEALTH BUREAU .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Radioactive Substances and Ionizing Radiation Generators .....	4
<b>3 PHARMACEUTICAL ADMINISTRATION BUREAU .....</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; Pharmaceutical Products; Western Medicines; Chinese Medicines (including Proprietary Chinese Medicines, Chinese Medicinal Materials, Prepared Portions or Extracts); Natural Medicines; Modified Milk for Infant Feeding; Diagnostic and Laboratory Reagents; Pesticides; Essential Oil; Therapeutic Preparations for Use on the Hair; and Chemicals, Chemical Fertilisers, Colouring Matters and Dyes .....	6
<b>4 ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU .....</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1 Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Petroleum Products; Optical Disc Manufacturing Equipment and Raw Materials.....	8
4.2 Ozone-Depleting Substances.....	10
4.3 Endangered Species of Animals and Plants .....	12
4.4 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Controlled Chemicals of 1988 UN Convention) .....	13
4.5 Rough diamonds .....	14
<b>5 TRANSPORT BUREAU.....</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1 Vehicles .....	15
<b>6 MACAO POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU .....</b>	<b>17</b>
6.1 Telecommunication and Radio-Communication Apparatus.....	17
<b>7 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU .....</b>	<b>18</b>

<sup>1</sup> See document G/LIC/3, Annex for Questionnaire.

7.1 Industrial Chemicals and Relevant Goods (Rotterdam Convention) .....	18
<b>8 MACAO SECURITY POLICE .....</b>	<b>20</b>
8.1 Arms and Ammunition, and Explosives .....	20
<b>ANNEXES.....</b>	<b>22</b>

## **1 MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS BUREAU**

### **1.1 Live animals, meat, animal products, fish, crustaceans and molluscs, vegetables, live plants, seeds, mushroom spawn and animal or vegetable fertilisers**

#### **Outline of system**

1. An import license supported by International Animal Health Certificate/International certificate of vaccination or another specific requirement is required for the import of live animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, etc.). Furthermore, an international sanitary certificate is required for the import of animal products destined for human consumption (meat, meat products, egg, dairy products, etc.), fish, crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates, and international phytosanitary certificate for edible plant, live plants, seeds, mushroom spawn and edible animal or vegetable fertilisers.

Import permits will be issued by the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM - Instituto para os Assuntos Municipais) for the import of live animals and the health requirements will be different according to their origins from different countries.

Import licensing, health controls and control of importation of animals, plants and animal original products are outlined in the Official Gazette and governed by Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016; Administration Regulation No. 40/2004, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 15/2022 and Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021.

#### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. The import license for specific products is granted by the IAM (see Annex A-I), and is required for chapters 1, 2, and 3 as mentioned below and a few products in chapters 4, 16, 21 and 95. All other commodities mentioned below can be imported with an import declaration.

2.1 List of commodity sections and chapters of the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao/Harmonized System (NCEM/HS) subject to sanitary/phytosanitary inspection mentioned in Annex III of the Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021:

- Live animals, Chapter 1.
- Meat and edible offal (fresh, chilled, frozen or prepared), Chapter 2.
- Fish (except for ornamental fish, NCEM/HS Code: 0301.11.00 and 0301.19.00) and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates, Chapter 3.
- Dairy produce, birds' eggs, natural honey, edible products of animal origin, Chapter 4.
- Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked, animal products not elsewhere specified, Chapter 5.
- Live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage, mushroom spawn, Chapter 6.
- Edible fresh vegetables, fruits, nuts and certain roots and tubers, Chapters 7 and 8.
- Seeds, fruit and spores, of a kind used for sowing; fresh sugar cane (NCEM/HS Code: 1209, 1212.93.00).
- Pig fat (including lard) and poultry fat, Chapter 15.
- Preparations of meat, of fish, of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, or of insects, Chapter 16.
- Formula milk powder, (NCEM/HS Code: 1901.10.41, 1901.90.40).
- Ice cream and other edible ice, Chapter 21.
- Dog or cat food, put up for retail sale, containing animal origin ingredients (NCEM/HS Code: 2309.10.20).

- Animal or vegetable fertilisers, whether or not mixed together or chemically treated; fertilisers produced by the mixing or chemical treatment of animal or vegetable products (NCEM/HS Code: 3101.00.00).
- Animal for circuses, Chapter 95.

3. Import license or import declaration applies to the animals and products mentioned in 2.1 coming from all countries and territories outside the Macao SAR.

4. The import licensing system is not intended to restrict the quantity or value of imports, but to protect public health, animal health, animal welfare and prevent the introduction into and spread within territory of destructive plant diseases and pests.

5. The import licensing system is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016; and Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021. Import of species under CITES code is regulated by Law No. 2/2017 and Administrative Regulation No. 19/2017. The CITES species are listed in Chief Executive's Notice No. 5/2020. Legislation does not leave designation of products subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required when any changes are introduced to the existing system.

### **Procedures**

6. Not applicable.

7.(a) Application for import license should be submitted in advance of importation (at least three working days). However, in a small number of cases, some applications are exceptionally accepted on the working day prior to arrival. Import declarations are also accepted on the working day prior to arrival.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import license may exceptionally be granted on request.<sup>2</sup>

(c) There is no limitation of time as to the period of the year during which application for importation should be made.

(d) Import license is administered by the IAM. However, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue import licenses relating to the animals and plants listed in CITES (including their readily recognizable parts and derivatives) and medicines containing or claiming to contain tiger or rhino ingredients.

8. Application of import license will not be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. The reasons for refusal are always given to the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Chairman of Administration Committee on Municipal Affairs.

### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9. All persons, firms and institutions, complying with Article 11 of Law No. 3/2016, (amendment to Law No. 7/2003), are eligible to apply.

### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. The required information is outlined in a sample application form for the import license and attached in Annex A-II.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> "Exceptional cases" are defined as those that are claimed beforehand either by the exporter or importer as of urgent character or in need by the importer, particularly when dispatched by air through Macao International Airport or via express service. The normal procedure is to produce (documentary) evidence supported by reasonable explanation to his/her claim, namely letter(s) by the importer declaring so. Also, in case of events and exhibitions to be held locally, where imports into the Macao SAR, on a particular date, of certain type of goods either for sale or consumption are proved to be urgent or necessary.

<sup>3</sup> Annexes available in the Secretariat (Market Access Division) (English only).

11. The required information is summarized in Annex A-I. Controls of and requirements for import of live animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, etc.), animal products destined for human consumption (meat, meat products, eggs, dairy products, etc.), fish (except for ornamental fish), crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates, edible ice, prepared animal fodder, vegetable, fruit, live plants (any part of plants), seeds, mushroom spawn, and animal or vegetable fertilisers.

12. No fee is charged for import license and import declaration.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required; except for the import permit fee (whenever an import permit is needed), the inspection fee for live animal import, and the dog license fee (for the import of dogs) which are requested to be paid in advance.

### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The validity for import license is 30 days from the day of issuance, whereas the validity for import declaration is ten working days following the confirmation of Macao Customs Service.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of import license. If the import license is not used, importers can apply for a refund of dog license fee, but the live animal inspection fee and the import permit fee are non-refundable.

16. Neither import license nor import declaration is transferable.

17(a) Not applicable.

(b) Not applicable

### **Other procedural requirements**

18. No.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

## **2 MACAO HEALTH BUREAU**

### **2.1 Radioactive Substances and Ionizing Radiation Generators**

#### **Outline of system**

1. An import license issued by the Macao Health Bureau is required for the importation of the following products:

- Radioactive chemical elements and radioactive isotopes (including the fissile or fertile chemical elements and isotopes) and their compounds; mixtures and residues containing these products (HS code 2844)
- Isotopes other than those of heading 28.44; compounds, inorganic or organic, of such isotopes, whether or not chemically defined (HS code 2845);
- Apparatus based on the use of X-rays or of alpha, beta, gamma or other ionising radiations, whether or not for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary uses, including radiography or radiotherapy apparatus, X-ray tubes and other X-ray generators, high tension generators, control panels and desks, screens, examination or treatment tables, chairs and the like (HS code 9022);

The import licensing system for the products mentioned above is established by:

- Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016;
- Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016;
- Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021 (specified in Group B of Table B2 under Annex II, HS Code 2844, 2845 and 9022).

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**Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. An import license issued by the Macao Health Bureau is required for the products mentioned above. The products are specified in Group B2 of Table B (HS Code 2844, 2845 and 9022) under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021.

3. The system applies to goods originating and coming from all countries/territories outside the Macao SAR.

4. The import licensing is not to restrict the quantity or value of imports. The purposes of licensing are:

- To ensure the justification of using radiative substances and ionizing radiation generators;
- To reduce the impact of ionizing radiation on working staff and public health.

5. Licensing for the above-mentioned goods is a statutory requirement under Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016; and Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021 (specified in Group B of Table B2 under Annex II, HS Code 2844, 2845 and 9022).

It is not possible for the government (or the executive branch) to abolish the system without legislative approval.

**Procedures**

6.I-XI. Not applicable.

7.(a) The prior authorization application can be issued within 15 working days, with an addition three more working days if the import information is changed after the approval. For import license, the importer can obtain the license on the next day of application.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import licenses may be processed immediately on request.

(c) There is no limitation of time as to the period of the year during which application for license and/or importation may be made.

(d) The approval of the Macao SAR Marine and Water Bureau is required if the radioactive substance (HS codes 2844 and 2845) is imported by vessel.

8. Application for import license will not be refused if the general criteria are met. The applicant has the right to appeal to the Director of Macao Health Bureau if the reasons for refusal are given.

**Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9. Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003 are eligible to apply for import licenses.

**Documentational and other requirements for application for licence**

10. Importers are required to submit an import license, supported by the prior authorization form of the imported products issued by the Health Bureau, the required documents and information are listed on the application forms and prior authorization forms, which can be found in Annex B. A sample of import license is also provided in Annex B.

11. The import license is only required upon actual importation. If the radioactive substances (HS codes 2844 and 2845) are imported by vessel, the approval document from the Macao SAR Marine and Water Bureau is also required.

12. No fee is charged.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

### Conditions of licensing

14. The import license is valid for 30 days from the issue date. The validity cannot be extended.
15. There is no penalty for the non-utilization of an import license.
16. The licenses are not transferable between importers.
- 17.(a) Not applicable
- (b) No.

### Other procedural requirements

18. No other administrative procedures.
19. No foreign exchange control.

## 3 PHARMACEUTICAL ADMINISTRATION BUREAU

**3.1 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; Pharmaceutical Products; Western Medicines; Chinese Medicines (including Proprietary Chinese Medicines, Chinese Medicinal Materials, Prepared Portions or Extracts); Natural Medicines; Modified Milk for Infant Feeding; Diagnostic and Laboratory Reagents; Pesticides; Essential Oil; Therapeutic Preparations for Use on the Hair; and Chemicals, Chemical Fertilisers, Colouring Matters and Dyes**

### Outline of system

1. The import of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is subject to licensing control under Decree-Law No. 34/99/M and Law No. 17/2009. Law No. 17/2009 has been amended several times, the schedule of amendments for Law No. 17/2009 are listed in the following table. Licensing in relation to substances listed in Tables 1 to 4 of Law No. 17/2009 is administered by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau, whereas the controlled chemicals of 1988 UN Convention, as listed in Tables 5 to 6 appended to the Law, are administered by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau. (Details of the licensing system of the controlled chemicals of 1988 UN Convention are specified in Section D of Part III.) In this regard, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances mentioned in this section refer to substances administered by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau, as specified in Tables 1 to 4 of Law No. 17/2009.

Schedule of amendments for Law No. 17/2009	
Law No.	Effective date
Law No. 4/2014	03/04/2014
Law No. 10/2016	20/12/2016
Law No. 10/2019	21/05/2019
Law No. 22/2020	24/10/2020
Law No. 10/2021	17/07/2021

The import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products and medicines (including western medicines, Chinese medicines and natural medicines) is controlled through (i) licensing of importers and (ii) issuing of import license. An importer of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products, western medicines, Chinese medicines or natural medicines has to be licensed with the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau before applying for an import license to import these products for each consignment. Import licenses are also required for the importation of the other items specified above. Importers of such products have to apply for the import licenses from the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau to import the mentioned products for each consignment.

The licensing system is intended for public health reasons and to fulfil the Macao SAR's international obligations.

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### Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Import license issued by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau is required for the import of all of the above-mentioned products, which are specified in the Group B1 of Table B under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021, and Tables 1 to 4 appended to the current version of Law No. 17/2009.

3. The licensing system applies to the above-mentioned products coming from all countries/territories outside the Macao SAR.

4. The purpose of the import licensing system is not to restrict the quantity or value of imports, but for public health reasons and to prevent diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances into illicit markets.

5. The import licensing system is statutorily provided under the Decree-Law No. 34/99/M; Decree-Law No. 58/90/M; Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016 and Administrative Regulation No. 35/2021; the current version of Law No. 17/2009; and Law No. 11/2021. Legislation does not leave designation of products subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required when any changes are introduced to the existing system.

### Procedures

6. Not applicable.

7.(a) Application for import license should be submitted in advance of importation taking into account the processing time. Prior authorisation for the importation of registered narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products, western medicines, Chinese medicines, natural medicines and other regulated items should be obtained from the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau before applying for an import license. The prior authorisation will be issued within three working days, while the import license will be issued on the same day of application.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, the import license may exceptionally be granted on request.

(c) There is no limitation of time as to the period of the year during which application for license and/or importation is to be made.

(d) The Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau is the sole administrative organ responsible for the authorisation of import licenses of most of the mentioned categories of product except those medicines covered under CITES. The Economic and Technological Development Bureau is the competent authority for issuing import licenses for medicines containing ingredients subject to CITES protection, and the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau is meanwhile involved in offering recommendations on authorisation of application for the said import license.

8. Application for an import license will not be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. Reasons for refusal will be given to the applicant in case of unsuccessful application, and the applicant has the right to appeal to the Director of the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau.

### Eligibility of importers to apply for licence

9. Narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products, western medicines, Chinese medicines and natural medicines have to be registered with the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau, before they can be allowed to be imported for the purpose of local sale or distribution. A company is required to hold an appropriate firm license issued by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau before it can apply for an import license. Application for the firm license is open to all qualified traders which comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003 and other relevant legislations. The fee charged for the firm license for the import, export and wholesale of pharmaceutical products is MOP3,000; the fee charged for the firm license for the import, export and wholesale of Chinese medicines and natural medicines is also MOP3,000; and the charge for the annual renewal of either license is MOP400. A licensed firm for the import, export and wholesale of

pharmaceutical products has to hold an additional permit if it engages in the import of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The fee charged for the said permit is MOP10,000; and MOP1,500 is charged for the annual renewal. A list of licensed importers is available on Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau website or upon request. The information regarding the importers is published on the Official Gazette when the registration license is issued to them.

### **Documentational and other requirements for application for licence**

10. When applying for a license for the import, export and wholesale of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products, western medicines, Chinese medicines or natural medicines, the importer must provide detailed information including but not limited to personal identification, certificate of criminal record and design plan of the proposed licensed premises.

When applying for an import license of pharmaceutical products, western medicines, Chinese medicines, natural medicines and other products regulated by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau as mentioned in the above paragraph, the importers are required to submit a duly completed import license, supported by the prior authorization form of the importing products issued by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau.

When applying for an import license of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, the importers are required to submit a duly completed import license, supported by the import certificate and prior authorization form of the importing narcotic drugs/psychotropic substances issued by the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau.

11. A valid import license is the only document required upon actual importation. Samples of the application forms and the import license are attached in Annex B.

12. No fee is charged for the issue of the import license.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The import license is valid for 30 days from the day of issuance. The validity cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for the non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Import licenses are not transferable between importers.

17. No.

### **Other procedural requirements**

18. No other administrative procedures are required prior to importation.

19. No foreign exchange control.

## **4 ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU**

### **4.1 Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Petroleum Products; Optical Disc Manufacturing Equipment and Raw Materials**

#### **Outline of system**

1. The import licensing system for alcoholic beverages, tobacco and petroleum products is governed by Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016. For optical disc manufacturing equipment and raw materials, the requirements set out under Decree-Law No. 51/99/M are also applicable.

This licensing system is administered by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau for the aforesaid goods that are specified in Group C of Table B under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021 and 208/2022.



### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all goods listed in Group C of Table B under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021 and 208/2022.

3. This licensing system applies, regardless of the sources of goods.

4. This licensing system is not to be construed as a means to impose restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports.

Rather, its purposes are:

- To administer the levying of consumption tax for alcoholic beverages and tobacco;
- To enforce control over the flow of optical disc manufacturing equipment and raw materials so as to prevent such types of products from being unduly utilised for copyright infringing activities;
- To better administer the data collection associated with the import of petroleum products.

5. Licensing for the above-mentioned goods is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016. Legislation does not leave the designation of products to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

### **Procedures**

6. Not applicable.

7.(a) Licenses must be applied for at least three working days in advance of importation.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import licenses might be processed immediately on request.

(c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which application for licenses and/or importation may be submitted.

(d) The Economic and Technological Development Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the aforesaid goods.

8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9.(a) Not applicable.

(b) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No.7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. For each license, a single application form needs to be filled and handed in to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau. A sample of the form (import license) is attached in Annex C.

For optical disc manufacturing equipment and raw materials, complete information including the purpose of such an import, the use and final destination of the goods to be imported and the personal details of the importer must be provided in the application. If the goods to be imported are for local manufacturing purposes, the user of such imported goods must also be the manufacturer.

For petroleum products, complete information including the storage location of the products must be provided in the application. Invoices and purchasing orders are also required to be submitted as supporting documents for the application.

11. Only valid import licenses have to be presented upon actual importation.

12. No administrative fee is charged for the issuance of import licenses.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

#### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The validity of a license expires in 30 days from the day of issuance and cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.

17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

#### **Other procedural requirements**

18. There are no other procedural requirements.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

### **4.2 Ozone-Depleting Substances**

#### **Outline of system**

1. An import license is required for the import of ozone-depleting substances. Import controls are governed by Decree-Law No. 62/95/M and are primarily exercised by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau in accordance with Chief Executive's Decision No. 46/2022.

#### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all goods specified in the referred Decree-Law and Chief Executive's Decision No. 45/2022.

3. This licensing system applies to the goods or products in the above-mentioned legislations originating in or coming from contracting parties to the Montreal Protocol. Importation of ozone-depleting substances from non-parties to the Montreal Protocol is strictly prohibited.

4. As a contracting party, the Macao SAR authorities are required to abide by the obligations set out in the Montreal Protocol. For this reason, the quantitative limits agreed in the Protocol are imposed on the import of such substances.

5. Licensing for ozone-depleting substances is a statutory requirement maintained under Decree-Law No. 62/95/M. Legislation does not leave the designation of products to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

#### **Procedures**

6. Import of ozone-depleting substances is subject to quantitative restrictions in the form of an overall limit monitored by the Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA - Direcção dos Serviços de Protecção Ambiental). With regards to quota allocation to individual importers, 60% is based on their past performance and the remaining 40% allocated equally among importers who have submitted explicit requisitions.

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- I. Information concerning the annual quotas and their allocation is gazetted as Chief Executive's Decision No. 46/2022 in Macao SAR Official Gazette dated 21 March 2022.
  - II. The size of the quota is determined in accordance with the provisions in the Montreal Protocol.
  - III. To ensure that licenses issued are actually used for imports, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau is confirmed and apprised by the Customs Service of the actual quantities imported.
  - IV. The submission of applications for licenses may be made at any time.
  - V. All applications are processed within six working days from the day all necessary documents are received.
  - VI. Not applicable.
  - VII. Two authorities, namely the Environmental Protection Bureau and the Economic and Technological Development Bureau, are involved in the processing of license applications. Application for licenses should first be submitted to the Environmental Protection Bureau for opinions. Then the application, with the attached opinions if any, is forwarded to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau for approval. Licenses are issued by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau.
  - VIII. Not applicable.
  - IX. Not applicable.
  - X. Not applicable.
  - XI. No.
7. Not applicable.
8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met, subject to the availability of quota allocated to the applicant. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

#### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

- 9.(a) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.
- (b) Not applicable.

#### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. Application forms for licenses should first be submitted to the Environmental Protection Bureau for opinions. Then the application, with the attached opinions, is forwarded to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau for approval. A sample of the import license application form is attached in Annex C.
11. Only valid import licenses have to be presented upon actual importation.
12. No administrative fee is charged for issuance of import licenses.
13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

#### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The validity of a license expires in 30 days from the day of issuance and cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.
16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.
- 17.(a) No.
- (b) Not applicable.

#### **Other procedural requirements**

18. There are no other procedural requirements.
19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

### **4.3 Endangered Species of Animals and Plants**

#### **Outline of system**

1. An import license is required for the import of specimens of endangered species of animals and plants (whether alive or dead), their body parts and derivatives. Import controls are governed by Law No. 2/2017 and Administrative Regulation No. 19/2017 and are administered by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau.

#### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all specimens listed in Appendices I, II and III of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). For imports of animals and plants specified in the CITES Appendices I, II and III, CITES certificates or relevant export licenses issued by exporting countries or territories are required. On the other hand, for specimens of species listed in CITES Appendix III imported directly from countries other than the listing countries, certificates of origin issued by exporting countries or territories could be accepted in lieu.
3. This licensing system applies, regardless of the sources of the specimens.
4. This licensing system is not construed to be a means to place restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports, but to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
5. Licensing of the above-mentioned specimens is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 2/2017 and Administrative Regulation No. 19/2017. Legislation does not leave their designation to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

#### **Procedures**

6. Not applicable.
  - 7.(a) Licenses must be applied for at least three working days in advance of importation.
  - (b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import licenses might be processed immediately on request.
  - (c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which application for licenses and/or importation may be submitted.
  - (d) The Economic and Technological Development Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the aforesaid specimens.
8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

**Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9.(a) Not applicable.

(b) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

**Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. For each license, a single application form needs to be filled and handed in to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau together with the presentation of the CITES certificate/certificate of origin issued by the exporting countries or territories. A sample of the form (import license) is attached in Annex C.

11. CITES certificates and relevant import licenses issued by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau have to be presented upon actual importation.

12. A fee of 70 patacas is levied on each CITES certificate issued under Chief Executive's Decision No. 212/2017.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

**Conditions of licensing**

14. A license expires in 30 days from its day of issuance and cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.

17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

**Other procedural requirements**

18. For the import of medicines comprising ingredients of specimens covered in CITES, opinions of the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau are required to be submitted with the license application form. For the import of live specimens and food comprising ingredients of specimens listed in the CITES appendices, quarantine approval by the Municipal Affairs Bureau is required upon importation.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

**4.4 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Controlled Chemicals of 1988 UN Convention)****Outline of system**

1. The import of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is subject to licensing control under Law No. 17/2009, amended by Law No. 10/2016, Law No. 10/2019, Law No. 22/2020 and Law No. 10/2021. Licensing in relation to substances listed in Tables 5 and 6 appended to the Law is administered by Economic and Technological Development Bureau.

**Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all substances listed in Tables 5 and 6 appended to Law No. 17/2009, amended by Law No. 10/2016, Law No. 10/2019, Law No. 22/2020 and Law No. 10/2021.

3. This licensing system applies, regardless of the sources of goods.

4. This licensing system is not to be construed as a means to impose restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports, but to implement measures to control the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as stipulated under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

5. Licensing for the above-mentioned substances is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 17/2009, amended by Law No. 10/2016, Law No. 10/2019, Law No. 22/2020 and Law No. 10/2021. A regulation detailing on the procedures of licensing is already under way. However, it is clear that legislation does not leave the designation of substances to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

### **Procedures**

6. Not applicable.

\* As for questions No. 7 to 19 concerning Procedures, Eligibility of Importers to Apply for License, Documentational and Other Requirements for Application for License, Conditions of Licensing and Other Procedural Requirements, those pertaining to the import of alcoholic, beverages, tobacco, petroleum products, optical disc manufacturing equipment and raw materials mentioned in Section A are applied before the enactment of the regulation as mentioned in No. 5 above.

## **4.5 Rough diamonds**

### **Outline of system**

1. The import of rough diamonds is subject to licensing control under Law No. 15/2019 and Administrative Regulation No. 29/2019 and is administered by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau.

### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers three types of rough diamonds of which the HS codes are 7102.10, 7102.21 and 7102.31.

3. This licensing system applies in rough diamonds accompanied by a Kimberley Process (KP) Certificate issued by the government of the exporting country or territory, and shall be limited to only among KP members, which prohibit import of rough diamonds in absence of a Certificate issued by a KP member, as well as export of rough diamonds to non-KP members.

4. Macao Special Administrative Region implemented the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) through the People's Republic of China on 1 October 2019. This licensing system is not construed to be a means to place restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports, but to ensure that international trade of rough diamonds fulfil the international obligation in line with KPCS.

5. Licensing of the above-mentioned rough diamonds is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 15/2019 and Administrative Regulation No. 29/2019. Legislation does not leave their designation to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

### **Procedures**

6. Not applicable.

7.(a) A legal/natural person shall obtain an import license from the Economic and Technological Development Bureau before importing any consignment of rough diamonds.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import licenses might be processed immediately on request.

(c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which application for licenses and/or importation may be submitted.

- (d) The Economic and Technological Development Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the rough diamonds.

8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9.(a) Not applicable.

- (b) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. Applicants must submit applications for Import License by means of EDI.

11. A copy of the Kimberley Process Certificate issued by the competent authority of the place of provenance and operating license (import & export) issued by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau have to be presented upon actual importation. While commercial invoices of the rough diamonds concerned, manifests of cargo, remittance receipts and other documents need to be presented as well if necessary.

12. No administrative fee is charged for the issuance of import licenses.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

### **Conditions of licensing**

14. According to Law No. 15/2019, applicants are required to hold a valid Operating License for importation of rough diamonds.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.

17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

### **Other procedural requirement**

18. There are no other administrative procedures required prior to importation.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls. No license is required as a condition to obtaining foreign exchange.

## **5 TRANSPORT BUREAU**

### **5.1 Vehicles**

#### **Outline of system**

1. The import licensing system for vehicles is governed by Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016.

This licensing system is administered by the Transport Bureau for the aforesaid goods that are specified in Group F of Table B under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021.

**Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all goods listed in Group F of Table B under Annex II of Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021.
3. This licensing system applies, regardless of the sources of goods.
4. This licensing system is not to be construed as a means to impose restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports, rather to administer the levying of motor vehicle tax.
5. Licensing for the above-mentioned goods is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016. Legislation does not leave the designation of products to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

**Procedures**

6. Not applicable.
- 7.(a) Licenses must be applied for at least three working days in advance of importation.
  - (b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import licenses might be processed immediately on request.
  - (c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which application for licenses and/or importation may be submitted.
  - (d) The Transport Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses of, to register and approve the type and model of vehicles. Approval for the type or the model of vehicles to be imported must be obtained before issuing licenses.
8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Transport Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

**Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

- 9.(a) Not applicable.
- (b) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

**Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. For each license, a single application form needs to be filled and handed in to the Transport Bureau. A sample of the form (import license) is attached in Annex C.
11. Only valid import licenses have to be presented upon actual importation.
12. No administrative fee is charged for the issuance of import licenses.
13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

**Conditions of licensing**

14. The validity of a license expires in 30 days from the day of issuance and cannot be extended.
15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.
16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.



17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

### **Other procedural requirements**

18. Prior registration with and approval by the Transport Bureau in regard to the type or the model of vehicles is required.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

## **6 MACAO POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU**

### **6.1 Telecommunication and Radio-Communication Apparatus**

#### **Outline of system**

1. Import controls are primarily exercised by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau. However, the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau is also involved in the system of import controls on telecommunication and radiocommunication equipment.

#### **Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. Import licenses are required for telecommunication and radiocommunication equipment. These include:

- (a) Apparatus for the transmission or reception of voice, images or other data, including those for communication in a wireless local or wide area network.
- (b) Transmission apparatus for radio-broadcasting or television, whether or not incorporating reception apparatus or sound recording or reproducing apparatus.
- (c) Radar equipment, radionavigation equipment and remote control equipment.
- (d) The spare parts exclusively or partially for the equipment listed above.

except those with exemption or without need of station license or type approval according to the applicable radiocommunication legislation.

3. The licensing system applies to goods originating in and coming from any countries or territories.

4. The import licensing system on telecommunication and radiocommunication equipment is not intended to restrict the quantity or value of imports. Instead, its aim is to ensure the products imported meet certain standards.

5. The import licensing system is a statutory requirement maintained under Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016; and Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021. Legislation does not leave designation of products, which are subject to licensing, to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required when any changes are introduced to the existing system.

#### **Procedures**

6. Not Applicable.

7.(a) License application should be submitted before importing the equipment, taking account of the processing time required by the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau, which is normally within three working days.

(b) Where there is proof of a genuine need, import license may exceptionally be granted on request.

- (c) There is no limitation of time as to the period of the year during which application for license and/or importation may be made.
- (d) The Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the telecommunication and radiocommunication equipment.

8. Import license application may be refused in case the equipment does not comply with the Technical Standards applicable in the Macao SAR.

#### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9. All persons, firms and institutions complying with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003 (amended by Law No. 3/2016) and Article 6 or Article 30 of Decree-Law No. 18/83/M are eligible to apply for licenses except under special circumstances where licensing facilities are denied owing to the non-compliance of certain requirement.

#### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. A sample form is attached in Annex C. Catalogues/technical specifications for the products under application are to be submitted with the application for technical classification purpose.

11. Only the import license is needed upon actual importation.

12. No licensing fee is charged.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

#### **Conditions of licensing**

14. An import license covering telecommunication and radiocommunication equipment is valid for 30 days from the day of its issuance. The validity cannot be extended under normal circumstances.

15. There is no penalty for the non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Not transferable.

17. No.

#### **Other procedural requirements**

18. No other administrative procedures are required.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

## **7 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU**

### **7.1 Industrial Chemicals and Relevant Goods (Rotterdam Convention)**

#### **Outline of system**

1. An import license is required for the import of industrial chemicals and relevant goods under the Rotterdam Convention, not regulated by the Chief Executive's Decision No.48/2019 and No. 164/2019. It is governed by Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016, 35/2021 and 45/2022.

This licensing system is administered by the Environmental Protection Bureau for the aforesaid goods that are specified in Group G of Table B under Annex of Chief Executive's Decision No. 188/2022.

**Purposes and coverage of licensing**

2. This licensing system covers all goods listed in Group G of Table B under Annex of Chief Executive's Decision No. 188/2022.

3. This licensing system applies, regardless of the sources of goods.

4. This licensing system is not construed to be a means to place restrictions on either the quantity or the value of imports, but for implementation of the Rotterdam Convention, protection of human health and environment.

5. Licensing for the above-mentioned goods is a statutory requirement maintained under law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016; and Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003, amended by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016, 35/2021 and 45/2022.

Legislation does not leave the designation of products to be subject to licensing to administrative discretion. Legislative approval is required before any changes could be made to the existing system.

**Procedures**

6. Not applicable

7.(a) Licenses must be applied for at least three working days in advance of importation.

(b) A license cannot be granted immediately on request.

(c) There is no limitation as to the period of the year during which application for licenses and/or importation may be submitted.

(d) The Environmental Protection Bureau is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the aforesaid goods.

8. No application will be refused if the ordinary criteria are met. In circumstances where license application is not accepted, the applicant who has the right to appeal to the Environmental Protection Bureau will be informed of the relevant reasons.

**Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9.(a) Not applicable.

(b) Importers who comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

**Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. When applying for an import license of the aforesaid goods, the importers are required to submit a duly completed import license and must provide technical documents, such as the details of imported goods, safety data sheet, the purpose of imported goods, methods of use and storage of imported goods, the measures of emergency, pollution control and disposal etc.

11. Only valid import licenses have to be presented upon actual importation.

12. No administrative fee is charged for the issuance of import licenses.

13. No deposit or advance payment is required.

**Conditions of licensing**

14. The validity of a license expires in 30 days from the day of issuance and cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for non-utilisation of an import license.

16. Import licenses are neither transferable nor negotiable among importers.

17.(a) Not applicable.

(b) No.

### Other procedural requirements

18. There are no other administrative procedures required prior to importation.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

## 8 MACAO SECURITY POLICE

### 8.1 Arms and Ammunition, and Explosives

#### Outline of system

1. Import controls on arms and ammunition, and explosives are primarily exercised by the Macao Security Police (CPSP – *Corpo de Polícia de Segurança Pública*).

#### Purposes and coverage of licensing

2. Import licenses are required for certain arms and ammunition, and explosives:

(a) License for defence gun: cartridges of calibre .22 to .32

(b) License for competition gun:

Arms		Calibre
Pistol		.177 .22S (Short) .22LR (Long Rifle) .32 .38 .45
Revolvers		.22LR (Long Rifle) .32 .38 .45
Guns	Shotgun	.12
	Precision	.177
	Automatic or Semi-automatic	.22LR (Long Rifle)

3. The licensing system applies to goods originating in and coming from any countries.

4. The import licensing is not intended to restrict the quantity or value of imports, but to monitor the inflow of the aforesaid goods.

5. The import licensing regime for arms, ammunition and explosives is statutorily defined in the Arms and Ammunition Regulation, which is Decree-Law No. 77/99/M of 8 November as revised by Administrative Regulation No. 27/2018; External Trade Law, which is Law No. 7/2003 as revised by Law No. 3/2016; Regulation on External Trade Operations, which is Administrative Regulation No. 28/2003 as revised by Administrative Regulation No. 19/2016; and the tables related to External Trade Law updated by Chief Executive's Decision No. 209/2021. Any changes to the existing regime require legislative approval.

#### Procedures

6. Not applicable.

7.(a) Applications for import licenses should be submitted one month in advance. In the case of inadvertence, license can be obtained within a shorter time limit.

- (b) A license cannot be granted immediately on request.
- (c) There is no limitation of time as to the period of the year during which application for import license may be made.
- (d) The Macao Security Police is the sole administrative organ to issue licenses for the aforesaid goods.

8. Import license applications may be refused if the ordinary criteria are not met. The applicants have the right of appeal to Macao Security Police in the event of refusal within 30 days.

#### **Eligibility of importers to apply for licence**

9. All persons, firms and institutions which comply with Article 11 of Law No. 7/2003, amended by Law No. 3/2016, are eligible to apply for licenses.

#### **Documentational and other requirements for application for a licence**

10. Application form and copy of the Identity Card are required. The sample form is attached in Annex C.

11. The import license.

12. There are no licensing fees or administrative charges for the issue of licenses.

13. There are no requirements for deposit or advance payment associated with the issue of import licenses.

#### **Conditions of licensing**

14. The period of validity of a license is 12 months. It cannot be extended.

15. There is no penalty for the non-utilisation of a license or a portion of a license.

16. Licenses are not transferable.

17. No.

#### **Other procedural requirements**

18. There are no other administrative procedures.

19. There are no foreign exchange controls.

**ANNEXES**

ANNEX A-I - Importation procedures for Group I

ANNEX A-II - Specimens of Licensing Documents for Group I

ANNEX B - Specimens of Licensing Documents for Group II

ANNEX C - Specimen of Licensing Document for Group III, IV, V, VI and VII

Annexes available in the Secretariat (Market Access Division) (English only).

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