

2. The following provisions<sup>3</sup>, in addition to those in paragraphs 1 to 11 of Article 1 and paragraph 1 of Article 2 above, shall apply to automatic import licensing procedures:

- (a) Automatic licensing procedures shall not be administered in a manner so as to have restricting effects on imports subject to automatic licensing;
- (b) Parties recognize that automatic import licensing may be necessary whenever other appropriate procedures are not available. Automatic import licensing may be maintained as long as the circumstances which gave rise to its introduction prevail or as long as its underlying administrative purposes cannot be achieved in a more appropriate way;
- (c) Any person, firm or institution which fulfils the legal requirements of the importing country for engaging in import operations involving products subject to automatic licensing shall be equally eligible to apply for and to obtain import licences;
- (d) Applications for licences may be submitted on any working day prior to the customs clearance of the goods;
- (e) Applications for licences when submitted in appropriate and complete form shall be approved immediately on receipt, to the extent administratively feasible, but within a maximum of ten working days.

### *Article 3*

#### *Non-automatic import licensing*

The following provisions, in addition to those in paragraphs 1 to 11 of Article 1 above, shall apply to non-automatic import licensing procedures, that is, import licensing procedures not falling under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 2 above:

---

<sup>3</sup> A developing country Party, which has specific difficulties with the requirements of sub-paragraphs (d) and (e) below may, upon notification to the Committee referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 4, delay the application of these sub-paragraphs by not more than two years the date of entry into force of this Agreement for such Party.