

i) Non-restricted food and food products for import:

There is no particular restriction regarding the import of these products (e.g. frozen Pacific salmon, frozen herring, frozen cod - see Appendix 1). Any trading company or import agent who wishes to import these products from abroad can obtain automatic approval for import from the relevant organizations or government authorities.

ii) Restricted food and food products for import: (e.g. Lobster)

The food products classified in this category are, in principle, prohibited from import unless a special recommendation for import is granted.

In order to import these restricted food products such as beef, whey and cheese, importers are, in general, required to get a recommendation (virtually, it is an approval rather than a recommendation) from the competent government authorities.

Recommendation of the competent authority may or may not be given in consideration of the potential impact of such imports on the related local industry situation, specific food market and general economic environment.

In recent years, however, the Korean government has gradually opened its domestic market by loosening import regulations. This gradual liberalization is a result of Korea's trade surplus since 1986 and mounting pressure from western countries to further open its market.

Some restricted food products for import and their competent authorities for import approval are as below:

<u>RESTRICTED FOOD PRODUCT</u>	<u>COMPETENT AUTHORITY</u>
- BEEF	LIVESTOCK PRODUCT MARKETING ORGANIZATION
- POLLOCK (FRESH & CHILLED) (FROZEN)	NATIONAL FISHERY ADMINISTRATION KOREA DEEP SEA FISHERY ASSOCIATION
- LOBSTER	NATIONAL FISHERY ADMINISTRATION

Import procedures of food and food products are basically the same as the import procedures for other products