

16 December 2024

Page: 1/4

Committee on Agriculture

EXPORT COMPETITION: NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND FORMATS

DECISION BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE¹

Addendum

The Committee,

Taking due consideration of the Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Export Competition (the "Nairobi Decision"), whereby WTO Members agreed to eliminate all forms of export subsidies for agricultural products ("agricultural export subsidies") by the end of 2023 for all Members, with the exception of least developed countries (LDCs), and net food-importing developing countries (NFIDCs) as listed in <u>G/AG/5/Rev.10</u> who shall continue to benefit from the provisions of Article 9.4 of the Agreement on Agriculture until the end of 2030;

Taking into account the agreed report of the Committee of the work programme pursuant to paragraph 8 of the Ministerial Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity in $G/AG/38^3$;

In view of the agreement among Members under the third triennial review of the Nairobi Decision conducted pursuant to its paragraph 5;⁴

Decides as follows:

I. For reporting years until and including 2024:

- a. The notification requirements and formats in respect of export subsidy commitments contained in $\underline{G/AG/2}$ on pages 24-25 (hereinafter referred to as "ES notifications") shall remain unchanged.
- b. Members not applying export subsidies may fulfil outstanding Table ES:1 notifications by way of an oral announcement⁵ in the Committee in addition to relying on the usual submission procedures for agricultural notifications via the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN) or the AG-IMS (agims.wto.org).
- c. The Committee urges Members to redouble efforts to fulfil outstanding ES notifications for all reporting years until 2024.
- d. The Committee shall monitor Members' compliance with ES notifications under its standing agenda on 'overdue notifications'.
- e. Members shall continue to implement⁶ the export competition questionnaire (ECQ) contained in the annex to the Nairobi Decision within the context of the annual examination process under the Decision. The Committee urges Members to redouble efforts to submit outstanding responses to the ECQ, in accordance with the

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Following the agreement at its meeting on 27 November 2024, the Committee adopted the decision through a written procedure, along with the report on the third triennial review of the Nairobi Decision in $\underline{\text{G/AG/39}}$.

² WT/MIN(15)/45-WT/L/980.

³ WT/MIN(22)/28 - WT/L/1139.

⁴ Approved report of the review in <u>G/AG/39</u>.

⁵ After such announcement by a Member in the Committee, the Secretariat would do the required follow-up with the CRN on behalf of that Member to release the relevant 'Nil' Table ES:1 notification (Paragraphs 2.12-2.17 of G/AG/R/104 refers).

⁶ Members are invited to use the ECQ AG-IMS <u>on-line</u> facility to submit their responses.

requirements under paragraph 4 of the Nairobi Decision, taking into account the grace period provided to developing country Members under footnote 17 of the Decision.

II. For the reporting year 2025 and onwards:

1. The notification requirements and formats for "ES notifications" as contained in $\underline{G/AG/2}$ on pages 24-25 shall be replaced by the following:

Members shall submit an annual export competition notification (Table EC:1) for the relevant year using the entries and format in attachment 1 to this Decision.

- a. The notification should be submitted by Members by 30 June each year⁷;
- b. It should include information, as applicable, for the latest preceding year for which data is available.
- 2. The notification pursuant to paragraph II.1 shall constitute the annual requirement to support the monitoring of the implementation of the Nairobi Decision pursuant to paragraph 4 and the annex of the Nairobi Decision.
- 3. A notifying Member submitting notification under paragraph II.1 shall be presumed to have fulfilled its annual requirement to present information on 'international food aid' under entries 1 and 2 of its Table NF:1 notification.

III. Review:

a) The Committee shall review, and if necessary, modify, this Decision no later than 2030 by the end of which the use of agricultural export subsidies will be prohibited for all Members, based on the experience of the implementation of the Decision. Acknowledging the importance of transparency of international food aid and export financing support in favour of LDCs and NFIDCs, the Committee shall review the relevant requirements no later than the 4th triennial review in 2027 with a view to further enhancing them.

b) The Committee may review the product list⁸ used in the Secretariat's annual background note in the G/AG/W/32/ series circulated for the purposes of facilitating annual consultations under Article 18.5 of the Agreement on Agriculture, considering as well that Members will no longer be required to submit Table ES:2 notifications starting from the reporting year 2025.

⁷ Members not applying export subsidies, and not having programmes or entities covered under the sections on export financing, international food aid and agricultural exporting state trading enterprises, may submit an overall "Nil" EC:1 statement by way of an oral announcement in the Committee in addition to relying on the usual submission procedures for agricultural notifications. The Secretariat, based on such announcements, will circulate the relevant 'Nil' Table EC:1 notifications.

 $^{^{8}}$ A revised product list, based on discussions at the informal Committee meeting on 21 May 2024, is contained in RD/AG/129/Rev.1.

Attachment 1

Table EC:1

EXPORT COMPETITION: NAME OF MEMBER

REPORTING PERIOD: CALENDAR YEAR, MARKETING YEAR, ETC.

A. EXPORT SUBSIDIES

- 1. Members not applying export subsidies should provide a confirmatory "nil" statement to this effect.
- 2. Members applying export subsidies for agricultural products should submit the information in the form of Table ES:1, accompanied by Supporting Table ES:1 (contained on pages 26 and 29 of G/AG/2), as well as the quantity of total exports for products receiving export subsidies in the form of Table ES:2 (contained on page 27 of G/AG/2).
- 3. Developing country Members applying exempt export subsidies (Article 9:1(d) and (e)) pursuant to paragraph 8 of the Nairobi Decision should submit the information in the form of Supporting Table ES:2 (contained on page 30 of G/AG/2).

B. EXPORT CREDIT, EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEES OR INSURANCE PROGRAMMES (EXPORT FINANCING)

- 1. Description of the programme (classification within the following categories: direct financing support, risk cover, government to government credit agreements or any other form of governmental export credit support) and relevant legislation
- 2. Description of Export Financing Entity
- 3. Total value of export of agricultural products covered by export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes and use per programme
- 4. Annual average premium rates/fees per programme
- 5. Maximum repayment terms per programme
- 6. Annual average repayment periods per programme
- 7. Export destination or group of destinations per programme
- 8. Programme use by product or product group
- 9. Information on export financing support in favour of LDCs and NFIDCs

Members not having recourse to export financing programmes under the Nairobi Decision should provide a confirmatory "nil" statement to this effect.

C. INTERNATIONAL FOOD AID

- 1. Description of the programme, including Agency responsible within the food aid donor Member for the provision of food aid
- 2. Product description
- 3. Quantity and/or value of food aid provided, including quantity of food aid provided to LDCs and NFIDCs
 - a. Members should, to the extent possible, provide value of food aid provided to LDCs and NFIDCs, as well as the names of the LDC and NFIDC recipient countries.
- 4. Description of whether food aid is provided on in-kind, untied cash-based basis and whether monetisation was permitted
 - a. Members should, to the extent possible, furnish information on food aid in terms of whether it is provided directly to recipient countries or through relevant international humanitarian entities; and whether it is sourced from domestic agricultural production or procured from local or regional sources.
- 5. Description of whether food aid is in fully grant form or concessional terms
- 6. Description of relevant needs assessment (and by whom) and whether food aid is responding to a declaration of emergency or an emergency appeal (and by whom)

7. Description of whether re-export of food aid is an option under the terms of the provision of food aid

Members not granting international food aid should provide a confirmatory "nil" statement to this effect.

D. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTING STATE TRADING ENTERPRISES

- 1. Enumeration of State Trading Enterprises
 - Identification of state trading enterprises
 - Description of products affected (Including tariff item number(s) encompassed in product description)
- 2. Reason and purpose
 - Reason or purpose for establishing and/or maintaining state trading enterprise
 - Summary of legal basis for granting the relevant exclusive or special rights or privileges, including legal provisions and summary of statutory or constitutional powers
- 3. Description of the functioning of the State Trading Enterprise
 - Summary statement providing overview of operations of the state trading enterprise
 - Specification of exclusive or special rights or privileges enjoyed by the state trading enterprise

Additional information subject to normal commercial confidentiality considerations

- 1. Exports (value/volume)
- 2. Export prices
- 3. Export destination

For completing Section D, the notifying Members can reproduce the reply to the questionnaire of the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises (WPSTE). Members acknowledge that the information presented to the WPSTEs may need to be updated or completed for this exercise, especially for years during which no notification is provided to the WPSTE.

A Member not having agricultural exporting state trading enterprises as defined in the Nairobi Decision should provide a confirmatory "nil" statement to this effect.