

ORIGIN OF GOODS

1. NON-PREFERENTIAL ORIGIN

Article 23

The non-preferential origin of goods is defined by this Law for the purposes of:

- a) applying the Customs Tariff, with the exception of cases set forth in the Article 21 of this Law,
- b) applying other measures established by provisions of separate regulations governing trade in goods, and
- c) the issuing of certificates of origin.

Article 24

Goods originating in a country shall be those wholly obtained or produced in that country, including that country's territorial waters.

The expression "goods originating in a country" means:

- 1) mineral products extracted from the soil of that country;
- 2) vegetable products harvested therein;
- 3) live animals born and raised therein;
- 4) products derived from live animals raised therein;
- 5) products of hunting or fishing carried out therein;
- 6) products of sea-fishing and other products taken from the sea outside a country's territorial waters by vessels registered or recorded in the ship register of the country concerned and flying the flag of that country;
- 7) products obtained or produced on board factory-ships exclusively from the products taken from the sea outside the territorial waters, provided that such factory-ships are registered or recorded in that country and fly its flag;
- 8) products taken from the seabed or subsurface outside the territorial waters, provided that the country has exclusive rights to exploit the subsurface;
- 9) waste and scrap products derived from manufacturing operations or used articles, if they were collected therein and are fit only for the recovery of raw materials, and
- 10) goods which are produced therein exclusively from the above mentioned products or from derivatives thereof, at any stage of processing.

Article 25

Goods whose production involved more than one country shall be deemed to originate in the country where they underwent their last substantial, economically justifiable processing (treatment, final treatment, further treatment) resulting in new products or representing a crucial stage of manufacture.

The following shall not be deemed as the last substantial, economically justifiable processing which results new products or represents a crucial stage of manufacture:

- 1) packing and repacking of goods, irrespective of where the packaging material was manufactured,

- 2) dividing large quantities of goods into smaller quantities or putting small quantities together to make large quantities;
- 3) separating, sorting out, sifting, rinsing or cutting of products into pieces;
- 4) labeling and marking of goods;
- 5) treatment necessary to preserve the characteristics of products during transport and storage, and
- 6) simple assembly of parts into the whole product.

Article 26

Any processing of goods established to be or involving an established fact that its sole object was to circumvent the provisions of this Law applicable in the Republic to goods from certain countries shall not be deemed authentic, and such goods shall not have the status of the goods produced in such country.

Article 27

The Government shall prescribe detailed criteria for determining the origin of goods referred to in Article 25, paragraph 1 of this Law, the manner of proving their origin, the manner of issuing certificates of origin, and shall designate competent certification bodies for the certificates of origin of goods.

2. PREFERENTIAL ORIGIN OF GOODS

Article 28

The rules on preferential origin which goods must fulfill in order to benefit from more favorable tariff treatment referred to in the Article 21 of this Law shall be determined in free trade agreements.

The rules on origin for goods from countries to which the Republic applies preferential tariff treatment on the basis of its unilateral decision shall be determined in a regulation adopted by the Government.

When states or groups of states, by their individual decision, grant a favorable customs fee for domestic commodities exported to those states or groups of states, the rules on goods origin established by that decision shall apply.