

réserve

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Instructions General Import Permit for food and feedstuffs liable to contribution

(effective from 1 January 2020)

1. General information

The Federal Act of 17 June 2016 on National Economic Supply (SR/RS 531) requires stockpiling of certain essential goods. Subject to compulsory stockpiling are sugar, coffee, rice, edible oils and fats, cereals for human consumption as well as energy and protein sources for animal feed. According to the Ordinance of 10 May 2017 on Compulsory Stockpiling of Food and Feedstuffs (SR/RS 531.215.11) the import of those foods is only permissible with a General Import Permit (GIP) granted by réserve

suisse.

General Import Permits are in principle only granted to importers who have a compulsory stock in Switzerland or who are dispensed from compulsory stockpiling, but who are obliged, due to their imports, to pay a financial contribution to the guarantee fund (cf. SR/RS 531.215.11, Article 2 et seq.).

The registration of the GIP with the Federal Customs Administration usually takes place within 1-2 working days.

Violations of compulsory stockpiling requirements must be punished in accordance with the criminal and procedural provisions of the Federal Act on National Economic Supply.

Quantities up to 20 kg can be imported without a GIP.

1.1. Granting, refusal and withdrawal of the general import permit

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suisse grants the GIP in the form of a decision, provided that the applicant fulfills the obligations for the import of food and feedstuffs in accordance with the Ordinance on Compulsory Stockpiling of Food and Feedstuffs (SR/RS 531.215.11).

The GIP holder expressly acknowledges that non-compliance with the obligations may result in the refusal or withdrawal of the GIP by réserve

suisse.

The GIP is valid for 3 years. Validity is automatically extended by three years after the last date of import. The GIP expires if no imports are made within a period of 3 years. The GIP can be reapplied for at any time free of charge.

1.2. Guarantee fund contribution

The guarantee fund is used to finance stockpiling. A contribution is levied to provide resources for the guarantee fund. The current guarantee fund contributions and relevant rates for the individual customs tariff numbers are available on the website www.reservesuisse.ch.

2. Conditions and requirements

2.1. Reporting obligation

The GIP holder commits to immediately report any mutation, notably changes of address, cessation of business activities, obligations related to the VAT system etc. to réservesuisse. In case of cessation of import activities, the GIP must be returned to réservesuisse unsolicited.

2.2. Non-transferability of the GIP

The GIP is not transferable; any use for the benefit of a third party is prohibited. The GIP holder is accountable for the proper use of his GIP to the awarding authority. The GIP is in principle valid without any quantitative restrictions.

2.3. Customs clearance

The GIP holder must indicate his GIP-number on the import declaration to the Federal Customs Administration.

2.4. Guarantee fund contributions

The GIP holder commits to pay the guarantee fund contributions raised by réservesuisse according to the currently valid tariffs within 30 days after receipt of the billing. Furthermore, he must provide the necessary documents for levying the guarantee fund contributions at the request of réservesuisse. Otherwise, the GIP may be withdrawn. réservesuisse may require an appropriate bank guarantee before granting a GIP. Not invoiced goods liable to contribution must be reported immediately to réservesuisse.