

**Committee on Agriculture
Special Session**

**OUTLINING THE DATA NEEDED FOR CALCULATING
BASE PRODUCT-SPECIFIC AMS LIMITS**

STEP 1 FOR BASE PRODUCT-SPECIFIC AMS LIMITS

Communication by the Cairns Group

The following communication, dated 30 September 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Cairns Group.

1. The present communication is being circulated in order to contribute to the ongoing discussion on data and templates that, once modalities are agreed, will facilitate the verification and scheduling processes and does not prejudice either the Cairns Group or its individual Members' negotiating positions on any of the issues listed below or included in the Doha Mandate.

A. INTRODUCTION

2. The purpose of this note is to identify the data needed to calculate each Member's product-specific AMS limits, based on paragraphs 21–29 of the revised draft modalities (TN/AG/W/4/Rev.4). The identification is needed for what JOB(09)/99 and JOB(09)/104 call Step 1.

B. IDENTIFICATION OF NECESSARY DATA

3. Table 1 shows that a very small number of data sets are needed for the Step 1 calculation of Members' product-specific AMS limits. The necessary data sets vary depending on which paragraphs of the draft modalities a Member invokes when calculating the limits.

4. Two data sets show up most often in Table 1. Members need to provide: (i) the yearly notified product-specific AMS for each product in a standard historical period; and (ii) the yearly value of production for each product in a standard historical period. This standard period is 1995-2000 for developed country Members, and 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 for developing country Members. This flexibility for developing countries is indicated by "as applicable" in Table 1.

5. If a Member uses paragraph 24 to calculate its product-specific AMS limits for some products, yearly notified product-specific AMSs for each such product are needed for the last two notified years (i.e. a non-standard period). For Members using paragraph 25 it is also necessary to indicate the *de minimis* percentage applying in the standard period.

C. ASSEMBLING THE NECESSARY DATA

6. Altogether the necessary data sets for product-specific AMS limits would seem to lend themselves to assembly through a simple template. It could be designed to allow for the standard nature of the 1995-2000 and 1995-2004 periods and the choice between them that is available to developing country Members. The design would need to accommodate the appropriate number of

individual products of a Member, taking into account the complementarity of the products addressed under paragraphs 24 and 25 on the one hand, and under paragraphs 22, 23, and 27(a) on the other.

7. The template could also allow for the assembly of the data on notified product-specific AMSs in the non-standard two-year period stipulated in paragraph 24, as well as the Member's indication of its *de minimis* percentage used under paragraphs 25 and 27(b).

Table 1. Identifying the necessary data for product-specific AMS limits				
Paragraph in Rev. 4 and Member category	Notified product-specific (PS) AMSs for standard period	Notified product-specific (PS) AMSs for non-standard period	Yearly values of production by product for standard period	Other
Para. 22: Developed (not United States)	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in 1995-2000			
Para. 23: United States	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in 1995-2004			
Para. 24: Developed and developing using para. 27(a)	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 (as applicable)	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in the two most recent years	Yearly value of production in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 (as applicable)	
Para. 25, first sentence: Developed and developing using para. 27(a)	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 (as applicable)		Yearly value of production in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 (as applicable)	<i>de min</i> %
Para. 25, second sentence: Developed and developing using para. 27(a)			Yearly value of production in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004 (as applicable)	<i>de min</i> %
Para. 27(a): Developing	Yearly notified PS AMS for each product in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004			
Para. 27(b): Developing			Yearly value of production in 1995-2000 or 1995-2004	<i>de min</i> %
Para. 27(c): Developing	Different nature of underlying data: Doha commitments to be scheduled for future implementation, not historical data			