

## CUSTOMS INFORMATION PAPER (09) 79

### Tariff Preference: simplified proofs of origin

<b>Who should read:</b>	Everyone that Imports/Exports
<b>What is it about:</b>	Certain Consignments with a total value of no more than €6000
<b>When effective:</b>	1 January 2010
<b>Extant until/ Expires</b>	Further notice

#### 1. Background

All of the EC's preferential trade arrangements provide for the use of simplified proofs of preferential origin for consignments with a total value of no more than **€6000**.

The arrangements also stipulate that no formal proof of preferential origin is required for the following consignments:

- (i) **Private imports/exports in accompanied baggage** provided that the value of the consignment is no more than **€1200**; and
- (ii) **Private imports/exports in unaccompanied baggage** provided that the value of the consignment is no more than **€500**.

The rate of exchange used to convert the above Euro amounts into Pounds Sterling depends on the date of entry into force of the arrangement concerned. Consequently, the Sterling equivalents vary from arrangement to arrangement.

A number of the preferential arrangements also provide for an annual revalorisation of the Sterling equivalents, and as a result of the current strength of the Euro against the Pound the sterling equivalents will be increased for eligible products exported to or from certain preference receiving countries on or after 1 January 2010.

#### 2. Preferential arrangements for which the Sterling equivalents are being increased.

Increases will apply to the Sterling equivalents for eligible products which are exported to or from the following countries on or after 1 January 2010:

**The countries of the Pan-Euro-Mediterranean zone, The Western Balkan Countries, African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries covered by the Market Access Regulation (MAR), Chile and the Beneficiary Countries of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).**

Further information about the above countries can be found in Annex 1 to this paper.

#### **(a) Low value consignments**

Any exporter in the European Community or in the above countries will be able to issue a preferential origin declaration on an invoice or other commercial document where the total value of the consignment is no more than **£5700**

#### **(b) Consignments for which no formal proof of origin is required**

With effect from 1 January 2010 the Sterling equivalents for:

**(i) Private imports/exports in accompanied baggage** will be **£1140**; and

**(ii) Private imports/exports in unaccompanied baggage** will be **£470**

### **3. Preferential arrangements for which the Sterling equivalents remain the same**

The following is a list of countries that will not have any change to their limits in Pounds Sterling on or after 1 January 2010:

**The CARIFORUM Countries, The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT), Andorra, Mexico, South Africa, and Ceuta and Melilla (Annex 2).**

Further information about the above countries may be found in Annex 2 of this paper.

Public Notice 826 Tariff preferences: Imports and Public Notice 827 European Community Preferences : Export procedures. **However**, these updates will initially only be within the online version on the HMRC website. The paper copies will only be updated when the Notice is due for reprinting.

### **3. Contacts**

For queries on this custom information paper please contact Yvette Belcher,

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Customs and International, Duty Liability,  
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Queries on other subjects should be addressed to the National Advice Centre as detailed below.

Issued on the **03 December 2009** by the JCCC Secretary HMRC, Excise, Customs Stamps & Money Directorate.

If you have a question about the content of this paper please use the details provided in the Contacts section. For general HMRC queries speak to the VAT, Excise & Customs Helpline on Tel 0845 010 9000.

For comprehensive guidance on international trade regulation, as well as advice on market information and business growth visit the [Business Link website](#)

**ANNEX 1****Countries that will have a change to their limits in Pounds Sterling from 1 January 2010**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Invoice Declaration</b>	<b>Traveller's Personal Luggage</b>	<b>Small Packages</b>
<b>Pan-Euro-Med</b> Algeria, Switzerland, Egypt, Faroe Islands, Israel, Iceland, Jordan, Lebanon, Leichtenstein, Morocco, Norway, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey*, West Bank & Gaza Strip *simplified proofs are not available for goods imported & exported under cover of Forms ATR under the EU-Turkey Customs Union arrangements	<b>£5700</b>	<b>£1140</b>	<b>£470</b>
<b>ACP(MAR)</b> Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Fiji, Ghana, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe	<b>£5700</b>	<b>£1140</b>	<b>£470</b>
<b>Western Balkans</b> Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro & Kosovo	<b>£5700</b>	<b>£1140</b>	<b>£470</b>
<b>Chile</b>	<b>£5700</b>	<b>£1140</b>	<b>£470</b>
<b>Beneficiary Countries of the GSP</b>	<b>£5700</b>	<b>£1140</b>	<b>£470</b>

**ANNEX 2****Countries that will not have a change to their limits in Pounds Sterling from 1 January 2010**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Invoice Declaration</b>	<b>Traveller's Personal Luggage</b>	<b>Small Packages</b>
<b>CARIFORUM</b> Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Christopher & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago	<b>£4742</b>	<b>£948</b>	<b>£395</b>
<b>OCT</b> Anguilla, Aruba, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, French Polynesia, French Southern & Antarctic Territories, Greenland, Mayotte, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles (Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Sint eustatius, Saint Martin [Sint Maarten]), New Caledonia & Dependencies, Pitcairn, Saint Helena/Ascension Island/ Tristan da Cunha, Saint Pierre & Miquelon, South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands, Turks & Caicos Islands, Wallis & Fortuna Islands.	<b>£4830</b>	<b>£965</b>	<b>£400</b>
<b>Andorra</b>	<b>£4830</b>	<b>£965</b>	<b>£400</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	<b>£3744</b>	<b>£749</b>	<b>£312</b>
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>£3850</b>	<b>£770</b>	<b>£320</b>
<b>Ceuta &amp; Melilla</b>	<b>£3585</b>	<b>£965</b>	<b>£400</b>