



MARKET ACCESS GUIDELINES: EUROPEAN UNION



APPAREL SECTOR

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1. ABOUT MARKET ACCESS

Market Access means tariff and non-tariff measures imposed by countries for the entry of specific goods into those countries. Countries have various different systems controlling the import of products by legal requirements and additional (buyer) requirements. Some buyer requirements may go beyond legal requirements.

2. NON-TARIFF BARRIERS

Non-tariff barriers to trade (NTBs) are trade barriers that restrict imports but are not in the usual form of a tariff. Some common examples of NTBs are anti-dumping measures and countervailing duties, which, although they are called "non-tariff" barriers, have the effect of tariffs once they are enacted.

Some of non-tariff barriers are not directly related to foreign economic regulations, but nevertheless they have a significant impact on foreign-economic activity and foreign trade between countries. Non-tariff barriers include import quotas, special licenses, specific standards for the quality of goods, bureaucratic delays at customs, export restrictions, limiting the activities of state trading, export subsidies, countervailing duties, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, rules of origin, etc.

Tariff and non-tariff barriers a Sri Lankan exporter has to undergo when exporting to the European Union can be classified as follows.

a. CONSUMER HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT

- The OHSAS 18000 is an international occupational health and safety management system specification which seeks to promote various improvements in the working environment. The accreditation also encourages continuous progress in workplace health and safety by helping to minimize risk to employees, improve an existing similar system, demonstrate diligence and gain assurance, etc.

EU legislation: Product safety (non-food products)

b. PRODUCT QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- European standard EN 14682:2007 is to be used as the reference standard for children's clothing with cords and drawstrings sold on the EU market.
- WRAP (Worldwide Responsible Apparel Production) is the most recognized compliance standard in the United States for the apparel industry. It is an independent, non-profit organization that endorses the certification of lawful, humane and ethical manufacturing of apparel throughout the world.

- The OE 100 certification from Organic Exchange (OE) is a set of industry compliance standards for the global organic cotton textile industry. The Organic Exchange is a non-profit organization that promotes the global organic cotton industry and its members include many top international retailers who have added organic cotton products into their offerings.
- GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) certification. This global recognition of organic textile authenticity standards covers the production, processing, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, export, import and distribution of all natural fibers.
- The ISO 9001 certification is part of a suite of a system of quality management standards stipulated by the international Organization for Standardization (ISO).

c. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- LEED Certification - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)
- Green Building Rating System of the US Green Building Council (USGBC)

d. SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND FAIR TRADE MANAGEMENT

- SA 8000 Social Accountability standards established by New York based Social Accountability International (SAI).
- Fair Trade certification from the Institute for Market ecology (IMO) of Switzerland.
- The ISO 9001 certification is part of a family that covers environmental management standards developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). To comply with this standard, an organization needs to minimize harmful impact on the environment by its activities, and to maintain these in keeping with an improved environmental performance.

e. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF BUYERS (OPTIONAL)

- Restrictions on the use of certain flame retardants

The Regulation prohibits the use of the following substances in textile articles intended to come into contact with human skin.

- Tris (2,3dibromopropyl) phosphate (TRIS)
- Tris (aziridinyl)phosphineoxide (TEPA)

- Polybromobiphenyles (PBB)

3. TARIFF BARRIERS

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2011 Tariff</u>
H.621210	-Brassieres, girdles, corsets, braces, suspenders etc.	5.20%
H.610910	-T-shirts, singles and other vests etc.	9.60%
H.620342	-Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers etc.	9.6%
H.611610	-Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted.	6.4%
H.610711	-Men's or boy's underpants, briefs, nightshirts etc.	9.60%
H.610990	-T-shirts, singlet's and other vests, knitted	9.60%
H.620469	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.610821	-Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs etc.	9.60%
H.611120	-Babies' garments and clothing accessories etc.	7.1%
H.610822	-Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs etc.	9.60%
H.610829	-Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs etc.	9.60%
H.620462	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.620349	-Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.611020	-Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats etc.	9.60%
H.610462	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.611030	-Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats etc.	9.60%
H.611241	-Track suits, ski suits and swimwear, knitted etc.	9.40%
H.610469	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.620343	-Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.610831	-Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs etc.	9.60%
H.620690	-Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses.	9.60%
H.620520	-Men's or boys' shirts.	9.60%
H.620459	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.6%
H.620449	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.620640	-Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses.	9.60%
H.620630	-Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses.	9.60%
H.610510	-Men's or boys' shirts, knitted or crocheted.	9.60%
H.620443	-Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets etc.	9.60%
H.611599	-Panty hose, tights, stockings, socks etc.	9.60%
H.610832	-Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs, pantie etc.	9.60%

For information on more products please refer to <http://www.macmap.org> and <http://www.exporthelp.europa.eu> , <http://exporthelp.europa.eu/>

a. QUOTAS

The application of a reduced tariff rate for a specific quantity of imported goods and a higher tariff for imports above this quantity is known as an import tariff quota. A tariff quota has two parts, the Inside Tariff Quota Rate and the Outside Tariff Quota Rate.

b. BILATERAL/ MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS

EU GSP Scheme

4. SOURCES

CBI Website:	www.cbi.eu
(EU legislation)	www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/index.html
MRLs, pesticides	http://ec.europa.eu/sanco_pesticides/public/index.cfm
GLOBALGAP:	www.globalgap.org
EU Export Helpdesk:	http://exporthelp.europa.eu (requirements, taxes, VAT)
BRC (UK standard):	www.brc.org.uk
SA 8000:	www.sa-intl.org
ISO quality mgmt	www.iso.ch
Organic:	www.intracen.org/organics www.fao.org/organic
Fair Trade:	www.fairtrade.net www.fairtrade.org.uk www.Jetro.go.jp www.usitc.gov www.standardsmap.org http://www.daff.gov.au/ http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/tdo-dcd.nsf/eng/Home www.fda.gov/ www.ustr.gov

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