

“Jamaica to di worl”



***An Exporter's Guide to
Jamaica's Trade Agreements***



Vision

To be a national focal point for support of modern commerce through trade regulation and being a repository for and disseminator of national, regional and international trade-related information.

Mission

The mission of the Trade Board Limited is to facilitate trade locally and internationally by the issuance of licences and certificates of origin consistent with Government's policies and international agreements as well as to develop and promote a secure framework for e-transactions.

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What is a Trade Agreement?

A Trade Agreement is a formal contractual arrangement between two or more countries aimed at improving the flow of trade with each other, for example, by removing import taxes (i.e. customs duties) and non-tariff barriers (trade restrictions).



There are different types of trade agreements, such as free trade for goods only, non-reciprocal (one-way), partial scope (limited application), regional trade agreements (among countries in the same geographical area), customs unions, comprehensive free trade (covering goods, services and a wide range of other issues), and multilateral (at the global level). Jamaica is involved in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements. These agreements are important as trade is an economic imperative and a key corner stone of the country's long-term economic growth and development strategy. These agreements can involve the following:

- ◆ Market access, under preferential terms, through the reduction or elimination of customs duties;
- ◆ Reduction of non-tariff barriers e.g. trade restrictive measures such as quotas, licences and subsidies;
- ◆ Predictable rules of trade for businesses including Standards (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (Technical regulations) and customs procedures;
- ◆ The promotion of transparency in information dissemination;
- ◆ Special concessions for developing countries (e.g. longer transition periods, phased liberalization);
- ◆ Certification for duty free access through application of the Rules of Origin;
- ◆ Providing national treatment - ensuring that imported goods are accorded the same treatment in the domestic market as locally produced goods)



Trade Agreements, by promoting increased trade in goods and services, should contribute to enhanced economic growth and development.

Other international agreements with trade provisions - It should be noted that there are a number of international agreements/treaties which have trade provisions. Usually, these agreements apply to trade in specific products (e.g. hazardous waste) and circumstances (endangered species), and address trade-related issues (customs codes and nomenclatures). They usually apply trade restrictions, or further regulate trade. These agreements cover measures for the protection of the environment, address trade in historical artifacts, and cultural goods and services, while others cover intellectual property rights and customs procedures. The UN Charter, for the protection of international peace and security, allows the Security Council to apply trade sanctions against countries considered to be posing a threat. Currently, there are trade sanctions against North Korea and Iran.



Why are Trade Agreements important?

Trade Agreements are the primary means by which you can export your goods and services under preferential terms into the markets of other countries. The benefits of exporting can be substantial. Trade Agreements are important in exporting for the following reasons:



The prospect of increasing your sales and revenue from selling goods and services in foreign markets.

There are many rapidly growing economies in the world in which opportunities exist to expand your business by marketing your goods and services. You can also ascertain which goods and services are required in the market and determine whether you can supply.

Increasing your ability to compete in international markets. You can gain experience from working in different markets, such as an increased awareness of other goods and services and exposure to new ways of doing business. Importantly, meeting international standards will enhance your business.

Increasing access to less expensive raw materials and intermediate goods for value-added benefits

Less expensive inputs can reduce your cost of production and assist you to be more integrated into the global value chains.

Diversifying your markets so you are no longer dependent on a limited number of markets for your success. Seeking supply contracts for your products in non-traditional markets can allow you to expand the number of countries in which your goods and services are sold. Remember that you need to have consistent supplies at consistently high quality to meet demand. Market intelligence is therefore critical.



Becoming more competitive in your domestic market. Whether you realize it or not, **you are already competing internationally.** Foreign firms have already entered your domestic market. If your goods are competitive against foreign products in the domestic market, they are also likely to be competitive in the foreign markets.

Encouraging increased levels of investment in various sectors leading to increased production and employment. With market access available, investors may find Jamaica more attractive for business.



From which Trade Agreements does Jamaica Benefit?

Jamaica trades under preferential arrangements as a result of the following agreements to which the country is a party or beneficiary:



The World Trade Organization (WTO) Most Favoured Nation (MFN)

Treatment Principle - Under the GATT/WTO, Jamaica's exports can access the markets of the 160 Members of the WTO through Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Treatment. MFN addresses the tariff arrangements applied by all WTO Members. The MFN is to be found in the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

UNCTAD Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) - Under the GSP, various developed countries (e.g. Japan, Norway, Switzerland), can allow goods from Jamaica to enter their market under enhanced preferential tariff arrangements i.e. better than MFN treatment once specific conditions established by the offering country are met. The GSP is a non-reciprocal (one-way access) arrangement and is reviewed periodically by the donor countries.

The Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) Duty Free Access to the US market - The CBI comprises the 1983/1990 Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) and the 2000 Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBPTA). Both these pieces of US legislation allow Jamaica to export nearly all products to the USA duty free. A few products are exempted from duty free treatment.



The Commonwealth Caribbean/Canada Trade Agreement (CARIBCAN) Duty Free Access to the Canadian Market - The 1986

Commonwealth Caribbean /Canada Trade Agreement (CARIBCAN) allows Jamaica to export its products to the Canadian Market duty free. There are a few exempted products. This Agreement is governed by the Canadian legislation and is a non-reciprocal (one-way) arrangement.

CARICOM Single Market (CSM) Duty Free Treatment - Under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, which establishes a customs union and single market among CARICOM Member States, Jamaica has duty free access into the markets of 13 CARICOM Member States. The Bahamas and Montserrat are not participating in the CSM.

The CARICOM Bilateral Agreements - These are agreements negotiated between CARICOM and Venezuela; CARICOM and Colombia; CARICOM and the Dominican Republic; CARICOM and Costa Rica, and CARICOM and Cuba. Through these agreements, Jamaica has duty free access into the markets of Venezuela, Colombia, Dominican Republic; Costa Rica and Cuba for a wide range of goods.

PetroCaribe Trade Compensation Mechanism - This mechanism, negotiated as part of the PetroCaribe Agreement, allows Jamaica to supply goods to Venezuela under specific terms and conditions.

The CARIFORUM/EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) - This Agreement, concluded in 2008, allows Jamaica to export both goods and services to the 28 countries of the European Union (EU). All goods from Jamaica enter the EU duty free and quota free.



Coverage of the Trade Agreements

World Trade Organization (WTO)

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an international organization based in Geneva, Switzerland whose main objectives are the progressive liberalization and regulation of international trade among its Members. The WTO superseded the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which was established in 1947. The WTO establishes the foundation rules of international trade. It actually formulates international trade policy. It also provides a forum for negotiating and formalizing trade agreements leading to the further liberalization of international trade through periodic multi-lateral trade negotiations. The current Round of negotiations (the Doha Round) commenced in 2001 and is yet to be concluded. The WTO also provides mechanisms for reviewing trade policy and settling trade disputes. Both mechanisms are aimed at ensuring that Members adhere to WTO rules. The WTO was established on 1 January 1995 under the Marrakech Agreement and currently has 160 Members. Jamaica became a Member on 1st March 1995.



Trade in the WTO takes place in accordance with four key principles:

- (1) **Most Favoured Nation (MFN)**, which requires that a Member accord the same level of treatment (non-discrimination) to all other Members;
- (2) **National Treatment**, which requires each Member to treat imports no less favourably than it treats domestically produced goods.
- (3) **Transparency**, which ensures that trade information is readily available, and
- (4) **Reciprocity**, which requires that benefits accrue to all parties.



MFN Tariff commitments for goods are set out in each Member's Schedule of Concession. The schedules contain information on the bound rates and duties and charges applicable to the products listed in the schedule. The schedules represent the commitment not to raise the applied tariffs above the MFN bound rates. Some of the multilateral agreements governing trade in goods include:

The **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade** (GATT) - establishes the rules related to trade in goods;

The **Agreement on Agriculture** which deals with market access, domestic support, and export competition for agricultural products;

The **Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures** (SPS) which concerns the application of food safety, animal and plant health measures by governments which may, directly or indirectly, affect international trade;

The **Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade** (the TBT Agreement) which regulates a country's right to adopt technical regulations and standards, as long as they do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade;

The **Agreement on Antidumping Practices** which provides disciplines for the application of anti-dumping measures in case dumped imports are causing or threatening to cause material injury to the domestic industry of like products; and

The **Agreement on Safeguards**, which allows WTO members to restrict imports of a product temporarily if the domestic industry is injured or threatened with injury caused by a surge in imports.

Trade in Services is governed by **the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)**. The services sectors liberalized by each WTO Member are to be found in their Schedule of Commitments. Services only came under international trade rules during the GATT Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations which was concluded in 1994 and from which the WTO was established.



Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)

The GSP is a system whereby developed countries grant preferential treatment to eligible products imported from developing countries. The preference-granting country is also known as the donor and the preference receiving country as the beneficiary. The GSP is an officially



agreed exception to the WTO MFN principle. The GSP was adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in 1968 and granted a permanent GATT MFN waiver in 1979 (Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations). The intent of the GSP was to assist developing countries to further integrate into the global trading system by offering access to developed markets on preferential duty terms. The donor countries grant, not necessarily duty free access, but reduced duties i.e. lower than the MFN rates.

For Jamaica, which are the GSP Donor Countries?

- Australia
- Belarus
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Russian Federation
- Switzerland

Although the European Union and the USA offer GSP schemes, Jamaica trades with them primarily under the EPA and CBI respectively, as well as the WTO MFN level.



The US Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI)

The CBI, which is the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA), was created in 1983 and upgraded in 1990. It is of indefinite duration. In 2000, the CBERA was further enhanced through the enactment of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) providing for additional preferential access for Caribbean Basin products until 30 September 2020. In 2012, 45.1 per cent of Jamaica's exports to the USA entered duty-free under CBERA.



Whilst the duration of CBERA is indefinite, as a non-reciprocal preferential trade arrangement, it is incompatible with WTO rules on non-discrimination and, thus, requires a waiver from the WTO Most Favoured Nation (non-discrimination) rule. The most recent MFN waiver expired in 2014. There has been preliminary approval for a new waiver from the WTO up to 2019. Beneficiaries of CBERA must also meet conditions established by the US Government.

Goods coverage: Most products are eligible for duty-free, quota-free access to the USA, with the exception of canned tuna, petroleum and petroleum products, footwear, work gloves, luggage, handbags, flat leather goods such as wallets, leather apparel, and watches and watch parts, if any components originate in a Communist country. Duty-free sugar exports are also limited either by absolute quotas or by "competitive need" limits contained in the US Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). These restrictions are intended to ensure that duty-free sugar imports will not impede the United States price support system for domestically produced sugar.



The US Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) Cont'd

Rules of Origin/cumulation: Goods which benefit from duty free access to the USA, must be exported directly to the USA from a CBI beneficiary, and be wholly grown, produced or manufactured in a CBI beneficiary country or be substantially transformed into a new and different article in a CBI country. Products involving substantial transformation must, therefore, contain a minimum of 35% local content, of which materials from the USA may constitute 15 percentage points of the 35% minimum required local content.



The Caribbean/Canada Free Trade Agreement (CARIBCAN)

Created in 1986, CARIBCAN is a non-reciprocal agreement, which allows all Commonwealth Caribbean countries to export goods duty free to Canada, with a few exceptions. Approximately 6 per cent of Jamaica's exports to Canada now enter duty free under this arrangement. Like CBERA, as a non-reciprocal preferential trade arrangement, CARIBCAN is incompatible with the World Trade Organization's (WTO) rules on non-discrimination and, therefore, requires a waiver from the Most Favoured Nation (non-discrimination) rule. The last waiver expired on 31st December 2013. It is anticipated that the CARIBCAN Agreement will ultimately be replaced by a reciprocal Free Trade Agreement between CARICOM Member States and Canada which is currently under negotiation. Canada has requested a new waiver for CARIBCAN up to 2023 at the WTO.



Goods coverage: All goods may be exported to Canada, excluding textiles and clothing, footwear, leather garments, luggage and hand-bags and lubricating oil.

Rules of Origin/cumulation: Goods will be deemed originating within CARICOM member countries if wholly produced from materials obtained in either of the Parties to the Agreement, or contain non-originating materials that do not amount to more than 40% of the ex-factory price (F.O.B) of the final good. Products harvested, gathered, bred or born within the respective territories or their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), or produced onboard factory ships registered in those territories, shall be deemed originating from within the relevant Parties.



CARICOM Single Market (CSM)

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM), established by the 1973 Treaty of Chaguaramas, created a customs union and later introduced a Common External Tariff (CET) in 1992. Under the 2001 Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), the regional arrangement was further deepened to facilitate the free movement of goods, services, labour and capital, as well as the right to commercially establish businesses throughout the Community. Currently, only the CARICOM Single Market is operational. The Treaty also provides for the implementation of a common trade policy.



Members of the CSME are:

Antigua and Barbuda	Barbados
Belize	Dominica
Grenada	Guyana
Haiti	Jamaica
St. Kitts and Nevis	Saint Lucia
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago	

It should be noted that the Bahamas and Montserrat are not participating in the CSM.




Rules of Origin/Cumulation: To qualify for duty free treatment, goods must be wholly produced within the Community or produced within the Community from materials imported from outside that have been substantially transformed. That is, they must ultimately be classified under a different tariff heading from that of the source materials.



CARICOM-Colombia Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement

This is a Partial Scope Agreement, which was signed on 24 July 1994 and entered into force on 1 June 1995. The Agreement provides for the More Developed Countries (MDCs) of CARICOM, such as Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, to introduce a programme to eliminate or reduce tariffs on an agreed list of products of export interest to Colombia, commencing at the beginning of the fourth year (1999) after the entry into force of the Agreement. CARICOM Less Developed Countries, such as the OECS and Belize, are not required to grant tariff concessions (reduce duties) on imports from Colombia. This Agreement has not been very active and is also focused on the trade in goods, while providing a framework for future collaboration among contracting parties in the areas of services and investment.



Goods coverage: This Agreement contains several lists.  Products eligible for immediate duty concession are contained in Annex I, while Annex II outlines those products subject to phased reduction of duties. The Agreement further lists, in Annex III, products for which duty concessions could be negotiated in the future.

Rules of Origin/Cumulation: The CARICOM-Colombia Agreement maintains the general requirement for a change of customs classification heading, where this involves a process of substantial transformation of a product, in order for goods to be deemed originating in a CARICOM Member State. This is outlined in Annex IV of the Agreement. Cumulation is also allowed, where inputs are sourced from Parties to the Agreement, in order to encourage production linkages among the Parties. Changes to the origin rules are also foreseeable, under this Agreement, in light of technological changes or changes to the production structure of the Parties that may occur over time.



CARICOM-Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement

This Agreement was signed on the 9th of March 2004 and covers trade in goods. It provides for further negotiations in the areas of Competition Policy, Government Procurement, Double Taxation and the Trade in Services. The FTA is based on reciprocity with the five More Developed Countries of CARICOM and non-reciprocity for CARICOM Less Developed Countries (LDCs). The Agreement is now being applied by Jamaica.



Goods coverage: The coverage for goods varies. All exports from Jamaica to Costa Rica are immediately liberalized, except for a select list of excluded items (see Product Index). Certain items benefit from phased reduction of duties on a tariff line specific basis, in some cases over a period of one year.

Rules of Origin/ cumulation: Goods deemed originating must be wholly obtained or produced entirely in the territory of one or both parties, including those obtained within territorial waters or the EEZ, or obtained outside the territorial waters by a vessel registered or leased in the territory of either Party, or produced on such a vessel outside their territorial waters. Other originating goods may be made from non-originating materials, but must undergo substantial transformation and/ or a change of tariff heading. *De minimis* (maximum ignorable) amounts of some non-originating materials (except agricultural materials) constituting less than 7% of the value of the final product or not more than 10% by weight where materials fall under Chapters 50 to 63 may be included without transformation.



CARICOM-Cuba Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement

This Agreement was signed in July 2000. The Agreement is only reciprocal for CARICOM MDCs. The Agreement, in addition to focusing on the trade in goods, also outlines an agreed timetable for negotiating a trade in services regime, the reciprocal promotion and protection of investments, and government procurement. The Agreement is now being applied by Jamaica.



Goods coverage: Under this Agreement, duty free access is allowed for exports to Cuba for a select list of excluded items (see Product Index).

Rules of Origin/cumulation: Eligible products for duty free treatment must either be wholly produced within the territories of the Parties or they must undergo a process of substantial transformation involving a change of tariff heading. Wholly produced goods includes all minerals, plants and animals extracted, harvested, gathered, born, bred and captured within the territories of the Parties. In addition, products obtained beyond territorial waters and EEZs onboard ships will be deemed originating if the vessel is wholly or at least 50% owned by nationals of either party. Goods involving materials obtained from third parties will be considered originating if the final product is classified under a different tariff heading from the materials obtained from third parties, and/or where the value of the third party materials do not exceed 50% of the F.O.B price of the final good.



CARICOM/ Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement



This Free Trade Agreement was signed on the 22nd of August 1998 and provisionally entered into force in December 2001, following the signing of the Framework Agreement, together with the Protocol implementing the Agreement on 28th April, 2000. The FTA is based on reciprocity with the five More Developed Countries of CARICOM (MDCs), which includes Jamaica. Jamaica is now applying the Agreement.

Goods coverage: The Protocol provides for duty-free trade for about ninety percent of the goods traded between the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. For those products not eligible for duty free treatment, the Protocol provides for phased reduction of duties by 2004, and the Most Favorable Nation Treatment for the remainder. Essentially, therefore, all goods can be imported into the DR duty free or benefit from the phased reduction of tariffs to zero, with the exception of certain goods for which MFN duties will apply. Some special agricultural products will also have their MFN tariffs re-imposed during pre-specified months of each year (seasonal application). CARICOM products covered by the Region's Oils and Fats Agreement will continue to be protected and will not be subject to free trade.

Rules of Origin/cumulation: Products wholly produced, harvested or born within the territories, territorial waters and EEZs of the Parties, as well as those obtained in international waters by ships owned or partially owned by nationals of the Parties, are considered to have originated from the territory of the Parties. Substantial transformation, however, must take place in order for extra-territorial products to be deemed originating, while goods resulting from cumulation, in the production of goods using inputs obtained from the contracting Parties, are also deemed originating. A *De minimis* (or maximum ignorable) allowance of not more than 7% of inputs being untransformed is also provided for.



CARICOM-Venezuela Trade and Investment Agreement

This Partial Scope Agreement was signed on 13 October 1992, and entered into force on 1 January 2000. It is primarily focused on the trade in goods, but provides a framework for the parties to work together for the promotion of services and investment, and double taxation agreements. Under this Agreement, specified goods originating in all signatory CARICOM Member States are eligible for one-way duty-free access to the Venezuelan market. In this regard, the Agreement does not make a distinction between CARICOM MDCs and LDCs.



The Agreement, however, has been fairly dormant as there have been varied technical problems affecting its implementation.

Goods coverage: A number of goods is allowed to enter Venezuela duty free. The Trade Board has not received any applications for certificates of origin. This preferential access, however, is not extended to a range of products. Specifically, Annex I of the Agreement identifies those products from CARICOM which are eligible for immediate duty-free access into Venezuela. Annex II outlines the list of products subject to a phased reduction of duties according to the timelines specified in the Agreement. Annex III then outlines those products to which the MFN rate of duty will be applied.

Rules of Origin/cumulation: These provisions are set out in Annex IV of the Agreement and its two Appendices. It should be noted that all products extracted, harvested, gathered or born in the territory or territorial waters and exclusive economic zones (EEZ) of the Parties are eligible for preferential access to Venezuela. Products extracted beyond



territorial waters and EEZs by ships, which are legally established in a member's territory, or represent items produced exclusively from material from any CARICOM country are considered originating goods. Other manufactured items resulting from the substantial transformation of materials obtained from third countries, as well as assembled items involving substantial transformation of inputs from Venezuela and third countries, that do not exceed 50% of the f.o.b export value of such products, are also to be considered as originating goods. Similar treatment is further extended to items that fall under HS Chapters 61, 62 and 63, and which are produced using inputs from CARICOM member countries and materials from third countries that do not exceed 40% of the f.o.b value of such products. The production of items under HS Chapter 64 using materials from third countries that do not fall under Chapter 64, and that do not exceed 40% of the f.o.b export value of such products, are also allowed into Venezuela under the same preferential access conditions.



The PetroCaribe Trade Compensation Mechanism



Jamaica and Venezuela signed the PetroCaribe Bilateral Agreement on 23rd August 2005, to facilitate energy security and the promotion of economic and social development. The agreement contains a trade compensation mechanism which enables Jamaica to export goods and services to Venezuela under special terms, conditions and procedures.



CARIFORUM(CF)/EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

The CF/EU EPA is a region-to-region trade and development agreement. Jamaica signed the EPA on 15 October 2008, and the agreement has been provisionally applied since 29



December 2008. However, Jamaica has not yet formally ratified it. Jamaica began implementing the phased reduction of duties on goods imported from the EU as of 1 January 2011. The application and scope of the EPA are more comprehensive compared to previous trade agreements. It covers trade in goods and services as well as trade-related measures, such as government procurement, competition policy, intellectual property, environment, social issues and protection of personal data.

Goods coverage: The EPA provides for immediate duty-free, quota free access to the EU market for the export of goods, excluding arms and munitions, as well as out-of-quota sugar exports, with the latter's full liberalization expected in 2015. It also allows for trade in services according to the schedules of commitments of participating countries.

Rules of Origin/Cumulation: For goods, the Agreement provides for the regional cumulation of inputs into products destined for Europe, including products originating from other ACP countries, the EU's Overseas Countries and Territories, as well as a number of Latin American Countries (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama) as well as those with which CARICOM has bilateral trade agreements, such as Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela.



Index of Commonly Exported Products

Main Jamaican Exports	Cuba	Dominican Re- public	Costa Rica
	Actual treatment under relevant		
Ackee	MFN	DF	DF
Alcoholic beverages (excl. rum)	DF	DF	MFN
Alumina	DF	DF	DF
Animal and vegetable oil and fats	DF	DF	BIA
Animal feed	DF	DF	DF
Bananas	MFN	DF	MFN
Bauxite	DF	DF	DF
Beverages (excl. rum)	DF	DF	MFN
Bird's eggs	DF	DF	MFN
Bread, biscuits, bun, cake, etc	DF	DF	MFN
Chemicals incl. ethanol	some	DF	DF
Citrus	MFN	DF	MFN
Citrus products (excl. Juice)	MFN	DF	MFN
Cocoa powder	DF	DF	MFN
Cocoa beans	DF	DF	DF
Cocoa products	DF	DF	MFN
Coffee	DF	DF	MFN



and Relevant Trade Agreements

Venezuela	Colombia	CBI/GSP	CARIBCAN	EPA	CARICOM
trade Agreement (a key for abbreviations is at the end of the table)					
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	milk for cattle only	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
Citrus plants only	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF



Index of Commonly Exported Products

Main Jamaican Exports	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Costa Rica
	Actual treatment under relevant		
Coffee products	DF	DF	SMFN
Crude material			
Milk products	DF	Cream excl.	DF
Milk	MFN	MFN	MFN
Milk substitute	DF	MFN	MFN
Dasheen	MFN	DF	MFN
Fish, crustaceans and molluscs	DF	Fresh, chilled and frozen fish MFN	MFN
Furniture	DF	DF	MFN
Gypsum	DF		DF
Juices	DF	orange, grape-fruit & Lime Juice excl.	DF
Juices from citrus	MFN	MFN	MFN
Limestone	MFN	DF	DF
Machine and transport equipment	DF	DF	DF
Malt extract and preparations thereof	DF	MFN	DF
Meat and meat preparations	DF	MFN	MFN
Mineral fuels	DF	DF	DF
Non-alcoholic beverages	DF	water, sodas, & orange, grape-fruit & Lime Juice excl.	MFN



and Relevant Trade Agreements

Venezuela	Colombia	CBI/GSP	CARIBCAN	EPA	CARICOM
trade Agreement (a key for abbreviations is at the end of the table)					
Coffee plants only	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
SMFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
only Malta	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
Tin Meat	MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
SMFN	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF



Index of Commonly Exported Products

Main Jamaican Exports	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Costa Rica
	Actual treatment under relevant		
Fruits and fruit preparations	DF	DF	DF
Vegetables and preparations	DF	DF	DF
Papayas	DF	DF	DF
Pimento	DF	DF	DF
Pumpkin	MFN	DF	DF
Rum	MFN	DF	MFN
Sauces	DF	Pepper sauce is excl.	SMFN
Sugar	MFN	MFN	MFN
Sweet potatoes	MFN	DF	DF
Tobacco	DF	MFN	MFN
Waste and scrap metal	DF	DF	DF
Wearing apparel (excl. leather)	DF	DF	DF
Leather wearing apparel	DF	DF	MFN

Legend

DF- Duty-free

MFN- Product not covered by the agreement and is therefore traded duty-free

BIA- there is an agreement for this product to be covered in the future

TRQ- Tariff rate quota

DFQF- Duty-free, Quota-free



and Relevant Trade Agreements

Venezuela	Colombia	CBI/GSP	CARIBCAN	EPA	CARICOM
trade Agreement (a key for abbreviations is at the end of the table)					
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	DF	MFN outside TRQ	MFN outside TRQ	MFN outside TRQ. DFQF after 2015	DF
MFN	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
DF	DF	DF	DF	DF	DF
MFN	DF	DF	MFN	DF	DF
MFN	DF	DF	MFN	DF	DF



How can I Export my Products under Jamaica's Trade Agreements?

Exporters may only access the benefits of these trade agreements by complying with the standard procedures when exporting under Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) or Bilateral Trade Agreements:



1. The exporter must be registered with Jamaica Trade and Investment (JAMPRO)

The Exporter should ensure that the product to be exported is on the preferential treatment list e.g. the duty free list or Most Favoured Nation list.

3. The exporter/manufacturer submits a product analysis form inclusive of supporting documentation (Invoices and C87 Forms) to the Trade Board Limited (TBL).

4. TBL reviews the product analysis form and supporting documentation.

5. TBL schedules a visit to the exporter/manufacturer to verify the production process of the product seeking export certification

6. TBL writes a letter to the exporter/manufacturer advising them if the product qualifies (highlighting the origin criterion/tariff code used when exporting) or not for preferential treatment under the specific trade scheme under which they want to export.

7. If the product qualifies for preferential treatment, the exporter will be required to visit the TBL in order to obtain a certificate of origin.

8. A Certificate of Origin - which is a declaration certifying the fulfillment of the origin requirements - must be obtained from TBL by the exporter. TBL then certifies products which comply with the rules of origin of a given preferential trade scheme (this requires analyzing products and verifying their work processes to ensure that they conform to the prescribed criteria of each trade scheme). The issuing of a certificate of origin permits the qualifying product to be granted duty concession i.e. duty free or reduction of duty.



Glossary of Trade Terms

Border protection

Any measure which acts to restrain imports at point of entry.

CARICOM

The Caribbean Community and Common Market, comprising 15 countries.

Change of Tariff Heading

This condition specifies that the extra-regional materials used in the working or processing must be classified in a four-digit heading of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS), which is different from the four-digit heading in which the finished product is classified.

Compulsory licensing

For patents: when the authorities license companies or individuals other than the patent owner to use the rights of the patent — to make, use, sell or import a product under patent (i.e. a patented product or a product made by a patented process) — without the permission of the patent owner. Allowed under the WTO's TRIPS (intellectual property) Agreement provided certain procedures and conditions are fulfilled.

Counterfeit

Unauthorized representation of a registered trademark carried on goods identical or similar to goods for which the trademark is registered, with a view to deceiving the purchaser into believing that he/she is buying the original goods.

Dumping

Occurs when goods are exported at a price less than their normal value, generally meaning they are exported for less than they are sold in the domestic market or third-country markets, or at less than production cost.



Electronic commerce

The production, advertising, sale and distribution of products via telecommunications networks.

EU

European Union, in the WTO previously officially called the European Communities.

Food security

When the nutritional needs of a country or population are met consistently. This is commonly described as when people or populations “at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for a healthy life”. “Food security” and “self-sufficiency” are not the same, and a key debate is whether policies aiming for self-sufficiency help or hinder food security.

Free Trade Area

Trade within the group is duty free but members set their own tariffs on imports from non-members (e.g. NAFTA).

GATT

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which has been superseded as an international organization by the WTO. An updated General Agreement is now the WTO agreement governing trade in goods.

General obligations

Obligations which should be applied to all services sectors at the entry into force of the GATS agreement.

GSP

Generalized System of Preferences — programmes by developed countries granting preferential tariffs to imports from developing countries.

HoDs

Heads of delegations (usually ambassadors or ministers).



Import licensing

The need to obtain a permit for importing a product; administrative procedures for obtaining an import licence.

Intellectual property rights

Ownership of ideas, including literary and artistic works (protected by copyright), inventions (protected by patents), signs for distinguishing goods of an enterprise (protected by trademarks) and other elements of industrial property.

NTBs

Non-tariff barriers, such as quotas, import licensing systems, sanitary regulations, prohibitions, etc. Same as "non-tariff measures".

Nuisance tariff

Tariff so low that it costs the government more to collect it than the revenue it generates. Sometimes, a tariff that does not have any protective effect — some countries defend this as necessary in order to raise revenues.

PSI

Preshipment inspection — the practice of employing specialized private companies to check shipment details of goods ordered overseas — i.e. price, quantity, quality, etc.

Regionalization

Recognition that an exporting region (part of a country or a border-straddling zone) is disease-free or pest-free (or has a lower incidence).

Rules of Origin

Laws, regulations and administrative procedures which determine a product's country of origin. A decision by a customs authority on origin can determine whether a shipment falls within a quota limitation, qualifies for a tariff preference or is affected by an anti-dumping duty. These rules can vary from country to country.



Subsidy

There are two general types of subsidies: export and domestic. An export subsidy is a benefit conferred on a firm by the government that is contingent on exports. A domestic subsidy is a benefit not directly linked to exports.

Tariffs

Customs duties on merchandise imports. Levied either on an **ad valorem** basis (percentage of value) or on a **specific basis**. Tariffs give price advantage to similar locally-produced goods and raise revenues for the government.

Tariff binding

Commitment not to increase a rate of duty beyond an agreed level. Once a rate of duty is bound, it may not be raised without compensating the affected parties.

Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

Regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures, which could obstruct trade.

Trade facilitation

Removing obstacles to the movement of goods across borders (e.g. simplification of customs procedures).

Transparency

Degree to which trade policies and practices, and the process by which they are established, are open and predictable.

Waiver

Permission granted by WTO members allowing a WTO member not to comply with normal commitments. Waivers have time limits and extensions have to be justified.

Wholly Produced

Goods must either be grown in a particular country or produced from raw materials which originated in that country. Examples of these include ground provision, citrus products, limestone and fish.



Frequently Used Acronyms

BIT – Bilateral Investment Treaty

BTA(s) - Bilateral Trade Agreement (s)

CARIBCAN – The Commonwealth Caribbean-Canada Free Trade Agreement

CARICOM – Caribbean Community

CARIFORUM – Caribbean Forum of African Caribbean and Pacific States

CBERA – Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act

CBI – Caribbean Basin Initiative

CBTPA – Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act

CDB – Caribbean Development Bank

CET – Common External Tariff

CIF - Cost, Insurance, Freight

COFAP – The Council for Finance and Planning (CARICOM)

COHSOD – The Council for Human and Social Development (CARICOM)

COTED – The Council for Trade and Economic Development (CARICOM)

CSME – CARICOM Single Market and Economy

CSS – Contractual Service Supplier

DR – The Dominican Republic

EEZ – Exclusive Economic Zone

EPA – Economic Partnership Agreement

EPZ - Export Processing Zone

EU – European Union

FDI – Foreign Direct Investment

FOB – Free on Board or Freight on Board

FTA – Free Trade Agreement



Frequently Used Acronyms

GATT - General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
HS -Harmonised System
ICT – Information and Communications Technology
IP – Intellectual Property
IPR- Intellectual Property Rights
ITC – The International Trade Centre
LDC – Least Developed Country (CARICOM)
MDC – More/Most Developed Country (CARICOM)
MERCOSUR – Southern Common Market (English Translation)
MFN – Most Favoured Nation
NES – Not Explicitly Stated
NTB - Non-Tariff Barrier
NTM - Non-Tariff Measure
OECS - Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
R&D – Research and Development
ROO - Rules of Origin
SEZ - Special Economic Zone
SME - Small or Medium Sized Enterprise
SPS - Sanitary or Phyto-Sanitary
TBT - **Technical Barriers to Trade**
TRIPS - **Trade Related Aspects of**
ROW – The rest of the World
SICA - Central American Integration System (English Translation)
STATIN – The Statistical Institute of Jamaica
TIFA – Trade and Investment Framework Agreement
WTO – World Trade Organization







**Ministry of
Industry, Investment & Commerce
Jamaica**



**Ministry of Foreign Affairs &
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