

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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TO MODIFY DUTY-FREE TREATMENT UNDER THE
GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

1. Pursuant to sections 501 and 503(a)(1)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2463(a)(1)(B)), the President may designate certain articles as eligible for preferential tariff treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) when imported from a least-developed beneficiary developing country if, after receiving the advice of the United States International Trade Commission (the "Commission"), the President determines that such articles are not import-sensitive in the context of imports from least-developed beneficiary developing countries.

2. Pursuant to sections 501, 503(a)(1)(B), and 503(b)(5) of the 1974 Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2461, 2463(a)(1)(B), and 2463(b)(5)), and after receiving advice from the Commission in accordance with section 503(e) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(e)), I have determined to designate certain articles as eligible articles when imported from a least-developed beneficiary developing country.

3. Section 503(c)(2)(C) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(C)) provides that a country that is no longer treated as a beneficiary developing country with respect to an eligible article may be redesignated as a beneficiary developing country with respect to such article, subject to the considerations set forth in sections 501 and 502 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2462), if imports of such article from such country did not exceed the competitive need limitations in section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(A)) during the preceding calendar year.

4. Pursuant to section 503(c)(2)(C) of the 1974 Act, and having taken into account the considerations set forth in sections 501 and 502 of the 1974 Act, I have determined to redesignate certain countries as beneficiary developing countries with respect to certain eligible articles that previously had been imported in quantities exceeding the competitive need limitations of section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act.

5. Section 503(d)(4)(B)(ii) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(4)(B)(ii)) provides that the President should revoke any waiver of the application of the competitive need limitations that has been in effect with respect to an

article for 5 years or more if the beneficiary developing country has exported to the United States during the preceding calendar year an amount that exceeds the quantity set forth in section 503(d)(4)(B)(ii)(I) or section 503(d)(4)(B)(ii)(II) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(4)(B)(ii)(I) and 19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(4)(B)(ii)(II)).

6. Pursuant to section 503(c)(4)(B)(ii) of the 1974 Act, I have determined that in 2014 certain beneficiary developing countries exported eligible articles for which a waiver has been in effect for 5 years or more in quantities exceeding the applicable limitation set forth in section 503(d)(4)(B)(ii)(I) or section 503(d)(4)(B)(ii)(II) of the 1974 Act, and I therefore revoke said waivers.

7. Section 503(c)(2)(F)(i) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(F)(i)) provides that the President may disregard the competitive need limitation provided in section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(A)(i)(II)) with respect to any eligible article from any beneficiary developing country, if the aggregate appraised value of the imports of such article into the United States during the preceding calendar year does not exceed an amount set forth in section 503(c)(2)(F)(ii) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(F)(ii)).

8. Pursuant to section 503(c)(2)(F)(i) of the 1974 Act, I have determined that the competitive need limitation provided in section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the 1974 Act should be disregarded with respect to certain eligible articles from certain beneficiary developing countries.

9. Section 503(d)(1) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(1)) provides that the President may waive the application of the competitive need limitations in section 503(c)(2) of the 1974 Act with respect to any eligible article from any beneficiary developing country if certain conditions are met.

10. Pursuant to section 503(d)(1) of the 1974 Act, I have received the advice of the Commission on whether any industry in the United States is likely to be adversely affected by waivers of the competitive need limitations provided in section 503(c)(2) of the 1974 Act, and I have determined, based on that advice and on the considerations described in sections 501 and 502(c) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2462(c)) and after giving great weight to the considerations in section 503(d)(2) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(2)), that such waivers are in the national economic interest of the United States. Accordingly, I have determined that the competitive need limitations of section 503(c)(2) of the 1974 Act should be waived with respect to certain eligible articles from certain beneficiary developing countries.

11. Section 502(e) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2462(e)) provides that the President shall terminate the designation of a country as a beneficiary developing country if the President determines that such country has become a "high income" country as defined by the official statistics of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Termination is effective

on January 1 of the second year following the year in which such determination is made.

12. Pursuant to section 502(e) of the 1974 Act, I have determined that Seychelles, Uruguay, and Venezuela have become "high income" countries. Accordingly, I am terminating the designation of these countries as beneficiary developing countries for purposes of the GSP, effective January 1, 2017, and I will so notify the Congress under section 502(f) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2462(f)).

13. Section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)) authorizes the President to designate a country listed in section 107 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) (19 U.S.C. 3706) as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country eligible for the benefits described in section 506A(b) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2466a(b)), if the President determines that the country meets the eligibility requirements set forth in section 104 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3703) and the eligibility criteria set forth in section 502 of the 1974 Act, subject to the authority granted to the President under subsections (a), (d), and (e) of section 502 of the 1974 Act.

14. Pursuant to section 502(e) of the 1974 Act, I have determined that Seychelles has become a "high income" country and its designation as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country is no longer within the authority granted to the President under section 502 of the 1974 Act. Accordingly, pursuant to section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)), I have determined that Seychelles is no longer eligible for benefits as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country for the purpose of section 506A of the 1974 Act, effective January 1, 2017.

15. Section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other Acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

16. The short form name of "Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of" has been changed to "Macedonia," and I have determined that general note 4(a) to the HTS should be modified to reflect this change.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to title V and section 604 of the 1974 Act, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to designate certain articles as eligible articles only when imported from a least-developed beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for the corresponding HTS subheadings is modified as set forth in section A of Annex I to this proclamation.

(2) In order to redesignate certain articles as eligible articles for purposes of the GSP, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for the corresponding HTS subheadings and general note 4(d) to the HTS are modified as set forth in section B of Annex I to this proclamation.

(3) In order to provide that one or more countries should no longer be treated as beneficiary developing countries with respect to one or more eligible articles for purposes of the GSP, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for the corresponding HTS subheadings and general note 4(d) to the HTS are modified as set forth in section C of Annex I to this proclamation.

(4) In order to reflect the change in the name of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, general note 4(a) to the HTS is modified as provided in section D of Annex I to this proclamation.

(5) The modifications to the HTS set forth in Annex I to this proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the dates set forth in the relevant sections of Annex I.

(6) The competitive need limitation provided in section 503(c)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the 1974 Act is disregarded with respect to the eligible articles in the HTS subheadings and to the beneficiary developing countries listed in Annex II to this proclamation, effective October 1, 2015.

(7) A waiver of the application of section 503(c)(2) of the 1974 Act shall apply to the articles in the HTS subheadings and to the beneficiary developing countries set forth in Annex III to this proclamation, effective October 1, 2015.

(8) The designation of Seychelles as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP is terminated, effective on January 1, 2017.

(9) In order to reflect this termination in the HTS, general note 4(a) to the HTS is modified by deleting "Seychelles" from the list of independent countries, effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2017.

(10) The designation of Seychelles as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country for purposes of the AGOA is terminated, effective on January 1, 2017.

(11) In order to reflect this termination in the HTS, general note 16(a) to the HTS is modified by deleting "Republic of Seychelles" from the list of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2017.

(12) The designation of Uruguay as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP is terminated, effective on January 1, 2017.

(13) In order to reflect this termination in the HTS, general note 4(a) to the HTS is modified by deleting "Uruguay" from the list of independent countries, effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2017.

(14) The designation of Venezuela as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP is terminated, effective on January 1, 2017.

(15) In order to reflect this termination in the HTS, general note 4(a) to the HTS is modified by deleting "Venezuela" from the list of independent countries, effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2017. In addition, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for the corresponding HTS subheadings and general note 4(d) to the HTS are modified as set forth in section E of Annex I to this proclamation, effective on such date.

(16) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth.

BARACK OBAMA

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Results of the 2014/2015 GSP Limited Product Review**List I: Products Added to the List of Eligible Products for GSP for Least Developed Beneficiary Developing Countries**

HTS Subheading	Brief Description
5201.00.18	Cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length under 28.575 mm (1-1/8 inches), n/harsh or rough, nesoi
5201.00.28	Cotton, not carded or combed, harsh or rough, staple length of 29.36875 mm or more but under 34.925 mm & white in color, nesoi
5201.00.38	Cotton, not carded or combed, staple length of 28.575 mm or more but under 34.925 mm, nesoi
5202.99.30	Cotton card strips made from cotton waste having staple length under 30.1625 mm & lap, sliver & roving waste, nesoi
5203.00.30	Cotton fibers, carded or combed, of cotton fiber processed, but not spun, nesoi

List II: Decisions on Petitions to Grant a Waiver of Competitive Need Limitation

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country	Decision
2008.19.15	Coconuts, otherwise prepared or preserved, nesi	Thailand	Grant
7408.29.10	Copper alloys (o/than brass, cupro-nickel or nickel-silver), wire, coated or plated with metal	Thailand	Grant

List III: Revocations of Competitive Need Limitation Waivers

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
4412.31.40	Plywood sheets n/o 6 mm thick, with specified tropical wood outer ply, with face ply nesoi, not surface-covered beyond clear/transparent	Indonesia
7413.00.10	Copper, stranded wire, not electrically insulated, not fitted with fittings and not made up into articles	Turkey
7413.00.50	Copper, cables, plaited bands and the like, not fitted with fittings and not made up into articles	Turkey

List IV: Products Receiving GSP Redesignation

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
2306.30.00	Oilcake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats or oils, of sunflower seeds	Ukraine
2804.29.00	Rare gases, other than argon	Ukraine
8544.30.00	Insulated ignition wiring sets and other wiring sets of a kind used in vehicles, aircraft or ships	Indonesia
8607.19.03	Parts of railway/tramway locomotives/rolling stock, axles	Ukraine

List V: Products Receiving *De Minimis* Walvers

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
0304.95.90	Bregamacerotidae other fish, other than Alaska pollack, nesi, chilled or frozen fillets, nesi	Philippines
0410.00.00	Edible products of animal origin, nesi	Indonesia
0603.13.00	Orchids, fresh cut	Thailand
0710.80.50	Tomatoes, uncooked or cooked by steaming or boiling in water, frozen, if entered Nov. 15 through the following February, incl.	Turkey
0711.40.00	Cucumbers including gherkins, provisionally preserved but unsuitable in that state for immediate consumption	India
0713.60.60	Dried pigeon pea seeds, shelled, if entered for consumption during the period from May 1 through August 31, inclusive, in any year	India
0802.52.00	Pistachios, fresh or dried, shelled	Turkey
0802.61.00	Macadamia nuts, in shell	Brazil
0802.80.10	Areca nuts, fresh or dried, in shell	India
0802.90.20	Pignolias, fresh or dried, in shell	Pakistan
0810.60.00	Durians, fresh	Thailand
0813.40.10	Papayas, dried	Thailand
0813.40.80	Tamarinds, dried	Thailand
1007.10.00	Grain sorghum, seed	Brazil
1102.90.30	Cereal flours nesi, mixed together	India

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
1103.19.14	Groats and meal of rice	India
1202.41.40	Peanuts (ground-nuts), not seed, not roasted or cooked, in shell, subject to add. US note 2 to Ch.12	Ecuador
1806.10.34	Cocoa powder, sweetened, nesoi, subject to add US note 1 to Ch. 18	Ecuador
2001.90.45	Mangoes, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid	India
2005.80.00	Sweet corn, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar, acetic acid or sugar, not frozen	Thailand
2005.91.97	Vegetables nesoi, & mixtures of vegetables, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen, not preserved by sugar	India
2006.00.70	Fruit nesi, and nuts, except mixtures, preserved by sugar (drained, glace or crystallized)	Thailand
2008.99.50	Papayas, other than pulp, otherwise prepared or preserved, nesi	Thailand
2009.39.10	Lime juice, of a Brix value exceeding 20, unfit for beverage purposes, unfermented	Brazil
2106.90.03	Food preps, nesoi, n/o 5.5% bf, mixed w/other ingred. if o/16% milk solids capable of being further proc., subj. to GN15	Thailand
2306.50.00	Oilcake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats or oils, of coconut or copra	Papua New Guinea
2401.20.57	Tobacco, partly or wholly stemmed/stripped, n/threshed or similarly proc., not or n/over 35% wrapper, not flue-cured burley etc., other nesi	Jordan
2813.90.50	Sulfides of nonmetals, excluding carbon disulfide and sulfides of arsenic or phosphorus	India
2827.39.25	Tin chlorides	India
2827.39.45	Barium chloride	India
2831.90.00	Dithionites and sulfoxylates, other than those of sodium	India
2833.29.40	Chromium sulfate	Turkey
2834.10.10	Sodium nitrite	India
2840.11.00	Anhydrous disodium tetraborate (refined borax)	Turkey
2841.61.00	Potassium permanganate	India
2844.30.10	Thorium compounds	India
2903.73.00	Dichlorofluoroethanes	India
2904.10.08	Benzenesulfonyl chloride	India

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
2904.20.30	5-tert-Butyl-2,4,6-trinitro-m-xylene (Musk xylol) and other artificial musks	India
2904.90.04	o- and p-Nitrochlorobenzenes	India
2905.19.10	Pentanol (Amyl alcohol) and isomers thereof	Brazil
2907.12.00	Cresols and their salts	India
2907.29.25	tert-Butylhydroquinone	India
2908.19.20	Pentachlorophenol and its salts; and 2,4,5-trichlorophenol and its salts	India
2909.30.10	6-tert-Butyl-3-methyl-2,4-dinitroanisole (Musk ambrette) and other artificial musks	India
2912.49.10	p-Anisaldehyde	India
2913.00.50	Nonaromatic halogenated, sulfonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives of products of heading 2912	India
2914.29.10	Isophorone	India
2914.31.00	Phenylacetone (Phenylpropan-2-one)	India
2914.40.10	4-Hydroxy-4-methylpentan-2-one (Diacetone alcohol)	Brazil
2914.40.20	1,2,3-Indantrione monohydrate (Minhydrin)	India
2918.13.50	Salts and esters of tartaric acid, nesol	India
2921.42.15	N-Ethylaniline and N,N-diethylaniline	India
2921.42.21	Metanilic acid	India
2922.29.26	Amino-naphthols and other amino-phenols and their derivatives used as fast color bases	India
2924.29.36	Naphthol AS and derivatives, nesol	India
2927.00.30	Fast color bases and fast color salts, of diazo-, azo- or azoxy-compounds	India
2932.99.08	2-Ethoxy-2,3-dihydro-3,3-dimethyl-5-benzofuranylmethanesulfonate	India
2933.19.45	Nonaromatic drugs of heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only containing an unfused pyrazole ring	India
2933.99.06	alpha-Butyl-alpha-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-1,2,4-triazole-1-propanenitrile (Mycolbutanil); and one other specified aromatic chemical	India
2934.20.35	Pesticides containing a benzothiazole ring-system, not further fused	India

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
3824.90.25	Aqueous mixtures: triphenyl sulfonium Cl; diphenyl (4-phenylthio)phenyl sulfonium Cl; (thiodi-4,1-phenylene)bis(diphenyl sulfonium) dichloride	India
3824.90.31	Chemical mixtures nesoi, of two or more inorganic compounds, of bismuth	Brazil
3824.90.32	Chemical mixtures nesoi, of two or more inorganic compounds, of hydrosulfite or sulfoxylate compounds or of both	Brazil
4103.20.20	Raw hides and skins of reptiles, vegetable pretanned but not further prepared	Indonesia
4104.11.30	Full grain unsplit or grain split buffalo hide or skin, w/o hair on, tanned but not further prepared, surface ov 2.6 m2, in the wet state	India
4106.21.90	Hides and skins of goats or kids, without hair on, tanned but not further prepared, in the wet state other than wet blue	Pakistan
4106.22.00	Hides and skins of goats or kids, without hair on, tanned but not further prepared, in the dry state (crust)	Pakistan
4107.11.40	Full grain unsplit whole buffalo leather, without hair on, surface over 2.6 sq m, prepared after tanning or crusting, not heading 4114	India
4107.11.60	Full grain unsplit upper & sole leather of bovines (not buffalo) nesoi or equine, w/o hair on, prepared after tanning or crusting, not 4114	Turkey
4107.12.40	Grain split whole buffalo leather, without hair on, unit surface area over 2.6 sq m, prepared after tanning or crusting, not of heading 4114	India
4107.19.40	Whole buffalo skin leather (not full grain unsplit/grain splits), w/o hair on, over 2.6 sq m, prepared after tanning or crusting, not 4114	India
4107.19.60	Whole upper & sole leather of bovines (not buffalo) nesoi or equines nesoi, without hair on, prepared after tanning or crusting, not 4114	Brazil
4107.91.40	Full grain unsplit buffalo leather (not whole), w/o hair on, prepared after tanning or crusting (including parchment-dressed), not head 4114	India
4107.92.40	Grain splits buffalo leather (not whole), without hair on, prepared after tanning or crusting, other than of heading 4114	India
4107.99.40	Buffalo leather other than full grains unsplit & grain splits, not whole, w/o hair on, prepared after tanning or crusting, not heading 4114	Pakistan
4113.10.60	Goat or kidskin leather, without hair on, fancy, further prepared after tanning or crusting, other than of heading 4114	Pakistan

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
4302.20.60	Heads, tails, paws and other pieces or cuttings of dressed or tanned furskins, nesi, not assembled, not dyed	Brazil
4602.12.05	Fishing baskets or creels made from rattan	Indonesia
5208.31.20	Dyed plain weave certified hand-loomed fabrics of cotton, containing 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing not more than 100 g/m2	India
5208.51.20	Printed certified hand-loomed plain weave fabrics of cotton, 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing not over 100 g/m2	Indonesia
5209.31.30	Dyed, plain weave certified hand-loomed fabrics of cotton, containing 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing more than 200 g/m2	India
5209.41.30	Plain weave certified hand-loomed fabrics of cotton, cont. 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing over 200 g/m2, of yarns of different colors	India
5607.90.35	Twine, cordage, rope & cables of abaca or other hard (leaf) fibers, other than stranded construction or stranded n/o 1.88 cm in diameter	Philippines
5702.92.10	Hand-loomed carpet & other textile floor coverings, not of pile construction, woven, made up, of man-made textile materials, nesi	India
6116.99.35	Gloves, mittens & mitts specially designed for sports, including ski and snowmobile gloves, mittens and mitts, of artificial fibers	Indonesia
6908.10.20	Glazed ceramic tiles, cubes & similar arts. w/largest area enclosable in sq. w/sides under 7 cm & largest surface area less than 38.7 cm2	Indonesia
6913.10.20	Bone china statuettes and other ornamental articles, nesoi	Thailand
7113.20.25	Base metal clad w/gold mixed link necklaces and neck chains	India
7202.11.10	Ferromanganese containing by weight more than 2 percent but not more than 4 percent of carbon	Brazil
7410.22.00	Copper alloys, foil, w/thickness of 0.15 mm or less, backed	India
8112.12.00	Beryllium, unwrought; beryllium powders	Kazakhstan
8112.19.00	Beryllium, articles nesoi	Kazakhstan
8410.13.00	Hydraulic turbines and water wheels of a power exceeding 10,000 kW	India
8519.81.20	Cassette players (non-recording) designed exclusively for motor-vehicle installation	Philippines
9010.90.40	Parts and accessories of photographic film viewers, titlers, splicers, editors or any combination of the foregoing	India

HTS Subheading	Brief Description	Country
9603.10.90	Brooms & brushes of twigs or vegetable materials (o/than broom corn) bound together, w/ or w/o handles	Sri Lanka
9614.00.26	Smoking pipes and bowls, wholly of clay, and other smoking pipes w/bowls wholly of clay	Egypt