

**DECISION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A FREE TRADE AREA BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF  
ISRAEL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON  
ANNEX 3 (RULES OF ORIGIN)**

The Governments of the State of Israel and the United States of America, the Parties to the Agreement on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area between the Government of Israel and the Government of the United States of America, done at Washington, DC on April 22, 1985, hereinafter "the Agreement," acting as the Joint Committee,

HAVING CONSULTED on the interpretation of the provisions of Annex 3 of the Agreement (Rules of Origin) with a view to removing trade barriers, consistent with the objectives of the Agreement;

RECOGNIZING that the Agreement allows amendments of the rules of origin provisions for such purpose; and

ACTING in accordance with Article 17.2(c) and paragraph 11 of Annex 3 of the Agreement;

**HAVE AGREED** as follows:

1. Neither Party shall require exports under the Agreement to be documented by a certificate of origin, including the certificate of origin (commonly referred to as "Form A") of which a specimen is set forth in Attachments I and II to Annex 3 of the Agreement, in order to make a claim of preferential tariff treatment under the Agreement, or in order to verify compliance with the rules of origin set forth in the Agreement.
2. Accordingly, the text of Paragraph 9 of Annex 3 of the Agreement is amended as follows:

9. "A Party may require that imports from the other Party entered under this Agreement be accompanied by a declaration, completed by the producer or exporter on the invoice, delivery note, or on any other commercial document (Invoice Declaration), the text of which is provided in the Attachment to this Annex (Specimen Invoice Declaration). A Party shall not require consular transactions, including related fees and charges, or third party approval of customs documentation for imports entered under this Agreement. A Party shall not deny preferential treatment under this Agreement solely because the original Invoice Declaration has not been submitted. The exporter shall be prepared to present the Invoice Declaration when the articles are entered in accordance with the rules and procedures of the importing Party.<sup>1</sup>

The exporter signing the Invoice Declaration, or the producer, shall be prepared to submit a verification declaration setting forth all pertinent details, concerning the production or manufacture of the articles, which were used to prepare the Invoice Declaration.

The information on the verification declaration should contain at least the following pertinent details:

- A. a description of the article, quantity, numbers and marks of packages, invoice numbers, and bills of lading;
- B. a description of the operations performed in the production of the article in a Party and identification of the direct costs of processing operations;
- C. a description of any materials used in production of the article, which are wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of either Party, and a statement as to the cost or value of such materials;
- D. a description of the operations performed on and a statement as to the origin and cost or value of, any foreign materials used in the article which are claimed to have been sufficiently processed in a Party so as to be materials produced in that Party; and
- E. a description of the origin and cost or value of any foreign materials used in the article, which have not been substantially transformed in a Party.

The importing Party should only request a verification declaration when it has reason to question the accuracy of a claim of origin made on the Invoice Declaration, or when it randomly verifies origin."

3. The Attachments to Annex 3 of the Agreement are amended by striking the current text and replacing it with the text in the attachment to this decision.

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<sup>1</sup> As of the date of signature of this decision, Israel requires the submission of an Invoice Declaration with respect to articles for which a claim of preference is made under the Agreement before customs release of the articles.

4. With a view to further enhancing the efficiency of its customs processes for making a claim for preference under the Agreement, each Party shall seek to provide for electronic submission of the Invoice Declaration. The Parties shall share information regarding their implementation of, and ongoing efforts with respect to, customs automation through the Joint Committee.
  
5. Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing of the completion of its domestic legal procedures required for the entry into force of this decision. The modifications set forth herein shall take effect on the first day of the second month following the date of the latter such notification or on such other date as the Parties agree.

DONE,

For the State of Israel:	
Rachel Hirshler <i>Rachel Hirshler</i>	Date <i>10.5.17</i>
For the United States of America:	
L. Daniel Mullaney <i>L. Daniel Mullaney</i>	<i>May 10, 2017</i> Date

**Attachment**

**Specimen Invoice Declaration**

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that unless otherwise indicated, the goods covered by this document fully comply with the rules of origin and the other provisions of the Agreement on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area between the Government of Israel and the Government of the United States of America.

- The Exporter*** (whether the exporter is the producer or not)
- The Producer*** (is not the exporter)

Tax Identification: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_