Rules of Origin and Trade Liberalization

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Abstract

In a world where more and more goods are produced through the amalgamation of parts coming from various regions and countries, conferring origin to a product is not always an easy task. RoO are used to determine the country in which goods have been produced or manufactured in cases where the production or manufacturing took place in more than one country. These rules are necessary to ensure that the provisions applying selectively on the basis of origin are not avoided by minimal processing, trade diversion and similar circumvention methods. The paper makes an attempt to detail the intricacies involved in the rules of origin and analyzes dimensions of preferential and non-preferential rules of origin. It throws up some issues and concerns which are currently discussed in the on-going Doha round of negotiations.

NEWS

National/International

Proposed Changes in the EU’s Preferential Rules of Origin
(www.unctad.org)

WTO in 2006: Rules of Origin
(Indian Engineering Exports, September 2007)

Tough FTA Rules to Curb Trade Diversions
(The Financial Express, 10 July 2007)

India, Japan Differ on Safeguards in Trade Pact
(The Economic Times, 2 July 2007)

WTO Agreement on Rules of Origin
(PDEXCIL Newsletter, 28 June 2007)

Rules of Origin Criteria Still Undecided for Asean FTA
(The Financial Express, 23 August 2005)

Rules of Origin: Important Trade Policy Instruments
(www.wto.org)

Technical Information on Rules of Origin
(www.wto.org)
Books/Articles Notes

Books


Articles


Notes on Rules of Origin with Implications for Regional Integration on South-East Asia by Paul Brenton, Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, 2003.


Free Trade Areas and Rules of Origin: Economics and Politics by Rupa Duttagupta and Arvind Panagariya, 2 January 2001, rduttagupta@imf.org and panagari@econ.umd.edu


Documents


REPORT OF THE PANEL


Committee on Rules of Origin

DRAFT

Consolidated Text of Non-Preferential Rules of Origin*

Harmonization Work Programme

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT

(www.wto.org G/RO/W/111 15 October 2007)