NOTICE 1152 OF 2008

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH INDIA: PRODUCT LINES OF INTEREST TO EXPORTERS TO INDIA

The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and India have begun a process of trade negotiations that is intended to lead to a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). Since both are developing countries, the negotiations will be conducted in terms of the so-called enabling clause of the World Trade Organisation, i.e. a decision of 28 November 1979 on "Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries". The PTA will therefore not cover substantially all trade, like in the case of a free trade area, but be confined to products (tariff lines) of special interest to the parties.

A consultative process is underway within the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC) to compile a list of products of export interest to South African economic operators. To that end the following task team has been established:

- Agricultural and agro-processed products: Lambert Botha: 012 993 3434; lambert@grainmilling.org.za
- Chemicals: Laurraine Lotter: 011 482 1671; caia@iafrica.com
- Metals, metal products, machinery and engineering: Michael McDonald; 011 298 9413: <u>michael@seifsa.co.za</u>
- Textiles and clothing: Brian Brink: 011 454 2342; texfed@jhbmail.co.za
- Leather and footwear: Dennis Linde: 031 701 4111; dlinde@telkomsa.net
- Automotives: Danie Jordaan: 072 594 7735; djordaan@mweb.co.za
- Other products not mentioned elsewhere: Danie Jordaan: 072 594 7735; djordaan@mweb.co.za
- Overall coordinator: Catherine Grant: 011 784 8000; catherine.grant@busa.org.za

1. Tariff measures

Economic operators interested in exporting to India are invited to submit products of export interest to India to the member of the task team representing the sector they are active in.

Format

8 digit level of	Description	of	Customs tariff	Other duties and charges,
the HS code of	the product			e.g. customs surcharges,
the Indian tariff				decreed customs valuation,
book (2007/8)				provincial and other
				internal taxes levied on
				imported products ¹

¹ Please note that wharfage or other transport related charges do not need to be reported on. Neither is it necessary to reflect taxes that are levied equally on imports and goods produced in India.

The Indian tariff book can be obtained from Tshifhiwa Mahosi at the dti, on 012-394 3107 or e-mail <u>pmahosi@thedti.gov.za</u>

2. Non tariff measures

Economic operators are also invited to provide information on any measure or condition imposed by the authorities in India, other than customs duties or other duties and charges, that has a negative bearing on their ability to penetrate the Indian market.

Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the task team is 10 October 2008.