

### ***Egypt's factory registration system***

*Eleven WTO members (Australia, Canada, Chile, China, the European Union, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States) raised concerns about Egypt's new requirements for compulsory registration of factories. Under this regulation, products can be imported into Egypt only if they are produced by manufacturing plants registered with Egypt's General Organization for Export and Import (or imported from companies owning registered trademarks).*

*Members highlighted the absence of a period for comment before the regulation entered into force. They also drew attention to the lack of a sufficient transition period for compliance (normally six months), and the burdensome and unclear registration process. Members asked if the*

*registration requirements also apply to domestic producers (in line with the national treatment principle) and whether Egypt had taken a risk-based approach in identifying the wide scope of products covered by the measure. Egypt said that the registration procedure was designed to safeguard consumer health and safety against imports of substandard and illegal products and that several steps had been taken to ensure registration did not impose excessive burdens on trade procedures.*

[https://www.wto.org/spanish/news\\_s/news16\\_s/tbt\\_14jun16\\_s.htm#full](https://www.wto.org/spanish/news_s/news16_s/tbt_14jun16_s.htm#full)