(Form D) purposes only.

Rule 18

Retroactive Check

The importing Member State may request the issuing Journal authority of the exporting Member State to conduct a

retroactive check at random and/or when it has reasonable doubt as to the authenticity of the document or as to the accuracy of the information regarding the true origin of the goods in question or of certain parts thereof. Upon such request, the issuing authority of the exporting Member State shall conduct a retroactive check on a producer/exporter's cost statement based on the current cost and prices, within a six-month timeframe, specified at the date of exportation subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The request for retroactive check shall be accompanied with the Certificate of Origin (Form D) concerned and shall specify the reasons and any additional information suggesting that the particulars given on the said Certificate of Origin (Form D) may be inaccurate, unless the retroactive check is requested on a random basis;
- (b) The issuing authority receiving a request for retroactive check shall respond to the request promptly and reply within ninety (90) days after the receipt of the request;
- (c) The customs authorities of the importing Member State may suspend the provisions on preferential treatment while awaiting the result of verification. However, it may release the goods to the importer subject to any administrative measures deemed necessary, provided that they are not held to be subject to import prohibition or restriction and there is no suspicion of fraud;
- (d) the issuing authority shall promptly transmit the results of the verification process to the importing Member State which shall then determine whether or not the subject good is originating. The entire process of retroactive check including the process of notifying the issuing authority of the exporting Member State the result of determination whether or not the good is originating shall be completed within one hundred and