

ANNEX 3D
Framework for the Authentication Process of Origin Declarations

For the purpose of enabling India to establish the authenticity of an origin declaration, in accordance with Article 3.16 (Basis of a Claim for Preferential Tariff Treatment):

1. an exporter or producer intending to export goods to India and complete an origin declaration under this Agreement shall provide the customs authority of the United Kingdom with the information necessary to authenticate their identity;
2. the customs authority of the United Kingdom shall review the information provided by the exporter or producer and shall share relevant information, as agreed by the Parties, electronically with the customs authority of India. The information shared shall include unique reference numbers, registered email addresses of exporters and producers and other information as agreed by the Parties necessary to identify the exporter or producer so as to enable confirmation that the same exporter or producer has completed the origin declaration. The customs authority of the United Kingdom shall update the information from time to time and inform the customs authority of India of such amendments. The customs authority of India shall use this information to create and maintain a database of United Kingdom exporters and producers;
3. the exporter or producer shall send the origin declaration, completed in accordance with Article 3.15 (Proof of Origin) and Annex 3B (Origin Declaration Template), to the nodal email address of the customs authority of India and to the email address of the Indian importer within the same email. The origin declaration shall be sent as an attachment in a file type to be agreed between the Parties. The subject line of the email shall follow a structure to be agreed between the Parties.
4. the customs authority of India shall review the information sent by the exporter or producer in accordance with paragraph 3 against the database referred to in paragraph 2;
5. if the information is successfully matched, the authenticity of the origin declaration shall be established. The customs authority of India shall notify the email address of the exporter or producer that sent the email referred to in paragraph 3 that authenticity has been established and that a claim for preferential tariff treatment using the origin declaration may be made by the Indian importer. The importer shall be copied into this notification email. The contents of the notification email shall be agreed by the Parties;
6. if the information is not successfully matched, the customs authority of India shall notify the email address of the exporter or producer that sent the email referred to in paragraph 3 that authenticity has not been established. The Indian importer shall be copied into this notification email. The contents of the notification email shall be agreed by the Parties. The customs authority of India shall also automatically send an alert to the registered email address

corresponding to the unique reference number held on the database referred to in paragraph 2; and

7. if the authenticity of the origin declaration is not established through this process, the importer shall not be entitled to make a claim for preferential tariff treatment. The exporter or producer may start the authentication process again by sending the email referred to in paragraph 3 from a registered email address corresponding to the unique reference number in the database referred to in paragraph 2, or by updating their information with the customs authority of the United Kingdom in order for the customs authority of the United Kingdom to restart the process from paragraph 2.

For greater certainty, the authentication process set out in this Annex does not constitute a claim for preferential tariff treatment and no penalty shall be imposed solely on the basis that authenticity has not been established in accordance with this Annex.