

ABSTRACT

With regard to the international trade, it cannot deny that countries have tried to impose trade barriers more or less with the purpose of obtaining maximum trade benefits. The trade barrier which may be applied for obtaining trade benefits is the quantitative restriction.

The quantitative restriction is the control of the quantity or volume of goods exported or imported. This trade barrier is considered one of the non-tariff barriers. The quantitative restriction may be implemented in several forms such as quota, license regulation or privilege for importing from/ exporting to some countries. All actions have affected countries relating to such trading. For instance the quantitative restriction leads to loss of export incomes of exporters. The quantitative restriction causes insufficient goods to fulfill needs resulting in higher prices of goods and importing countries have to purchase goods with higher prices. In addition, this may affect other countries damaging the overall economy of the world. Hence, to reduce and prevent obstacles among member countries due to the quantitative restriction and to enhance the establishment of the free trade zones, the obligations on the quantitative restriction of the member countries were established specified in the Multilateral Agreements on Trade in Goods in the attachment of the Agreement Establishing The World Trade Organization binding the member countries. The member countries shall comply with the obligations specified in each agreement.

This thesis aims to study the rules and regulations on the quantitative restriction of the World Trade Organization. This thesis covered the study of the backgrounds of the World Trade Organization and the quantitative restriction, the basic principles of the World Trade Organization, and the study of the principles of the quantitative restriction under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. This General Agreement is the general rules on trading of the World Trade Organization and the exemption of the quantitative restriction including the exemption in circumstances where member countries are permitted to set the quantitative restriction under the provisions of

this General Agreement. In addition, the non – tariff measures to restrict quantity of goods under relevant rules of the World Trade Organization, terms and conditions, legal-binding effect and dispute on the quantitative restriction were also included.

From the study on the principles and rules on the quantitative restriction under the rules and regulations of the World Trade Organization, it was found that the quantitative restriction was the exemption of the trade liberalization which the member countries were entitled to set the quantitative restriction. Such quantitative restriction shall be in accordance and in line with the provisions allowing the member countries to restrict the quantity of goods. In addition, the study discovered advantage and disadvantage of the quantitative restriction including problems on the quantitative restriction.