

## **5. The direct transport rule**

In order to obtain GSP preferential treatment, the product must be transported “directly” from the beneficiary GSP-country to Norway. The products concerned must be destined for Norway (a Norwegian consignee) upon dispatch from the GSP-country in question. However, transportation of goods constituting one single consignment through one or more other countries, with or without unloading/reloading or temporary storage, is allowed, on condition that the goods have remained under customs surveillance during transit or storage and that they have undergone no other operations than those designed to keep them from deterioration. Upon customs clearance in Norway, the original certificate of origin Form A (or an invoice declaration for low-value consignments) issued and endorsed in the GSP-country concerned, must be presented.

### **Importation via the European Community or Switzerland**

The provisions regarding direct transport of goods, with or without unloading/reloading or temporary warehousing, are generally also applicable for transports through the European Community and Switzerland. However, when shipping GSP-products through the European Community or Switzerland, re-exportation of GSP-products, either as a whole or split consignment, is also allowed. Thus that a shipment of GSP-products originally destined for a consignee in the European Community or Switzerland may at a later stage be re-exported to a consignee in Norway. Due to transport costs savings, whole shiploads are shipped from a GSP-country to a central store in the European Community, for later distribution to other consignees in Europe. It is, however, a precondition for such re-exportation of GSP-products that they continuously have been under customs control in the European Community or Switzerland, and that they have not been subject to any operation other than unloading, reloading, changing of packaging or other operation designed to keep them in good condition. Thus, the goods may not have been released for free circulation or consumption by customs clearance. Furthermore, it is a precondition that Norway and the European Community or Switzerland, respectively, have identical rules of origin for the respective products to be covered by a replacement certificate of origin Form A.

For such products re-exported from the European Community or Switzerland, the originating status and entitlement to preferential treatment in Norway must be documented upon presentation of a replacement certificate Form A issued (stamped) by the customs authorities of the European Community or Switzerland, cf. the Customs Regulation § 8-4-38.

Notwithstanding the main provision on “direct transport”, the Norwegian origin regulation allows on certain conditions for shipments of GSP-products directly from public exhibition, fairs and the like, arranged in another country than the exporting GSP-country. It is a precondition that the products have been continuously under customs control in the country of exhibition, cf. the Customs Regulation § 8-4-39.