

- (b) a certificate given by a governmental authority or authorised body nominated by the exporting Member State and notified to the other Member States, together with a supplementary declaration completed by the exporter of the goods.

These declarations, certificates and supplementary declarations shall be in the form prescribed in Schedule IV to this Annex.

2. The exporter may choose either of the forms of evidence referred to in paragraph 1 of this Rule. Nevertheless, the authorities of the country of exportation may require for certain categories of goods that evidence of origin shall be furnished in the form indicated in sub-paragraph (b) of that paragraph.

3. In cases where a certificate of origin is to be supplied by a governmental authority or an authorised body under sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this Rule, that authority or body shall obtain a declaration as to the origin of the goods given by the last producer of the goods within the Area. The governmental authority or the authorised body shall satisfy themselves as to the accuracy of the evidence provided; where necessary they shall require the production of additional information, and shall carry out any suitable check. If the authorities of the importing Member State so require, a confidential indication of the producer of the goods shall be given.

4. Nominations of authorised bodies for the purpose of sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this Rule may be withdrawn by the exporting Member State if the need arises. Each Member State shall retain, in regard to its imports, the right of refusing to accept certificates from any authorised body which is shown to have repeatedly issued certificates in an improper manner, but such action shall not be taken without adequate prior notification to the exporting Member State of the grounds for dissatisfaction.

5. In cases where the Member States concerned recognise that it is impracticable for the producer to make the declaration of origin specified in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 or in paragraph 2 of this Rule, the exporter may make that declaration, in such form as those Member States may for the purpose specify.

#### *Rule 9. Verification of evidence of origin*

1. The importing Member State may as necessary require further evidence to support any declaration or certificate of origin furnished under Rule 8.

2. The importing Member State shall not prevent the importer from taking delivery of the goods solely on the grounds that it requires such further evidence, but may require security for any duty or other charge which may be payable.

3. Where, under paragraph 1 of this Rule, a Member State has required further evidence to be furnished, those concerned in the territory of another Member State shall be free to produce it to a governmental authority or an authorised body of the latter State, who shall, after thorough verification of the evidence, furnish an appropriate report to the importing Member State.

4. Where it is necessary to do so by reason of national legislation, a Member State may prescribe that requests by the authorities of importing Member States for further evidence from those concerned in its territory shall be addressed to a specified governmental authority, who shall after thorough verification of the evidence furnish an appropriate report to the importing Member State.

5. If the importing Member State wishes an investigation to be made into the accuracy of the evidence which it has received, it may make a request to that effect to the other Member State or States concerned.

6. Information obtained under the provisions of this Rule by the importing Member State shall be treated as confidential.