Expanding Tunisia's Exports through the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Program

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# **Presentation Summary**

#### Overview of the U.S. GSP Program

Tunisia's GSP exports to the U.S.

How to increase Tunisia's use of duty-free opportunities

# **GSP Program**

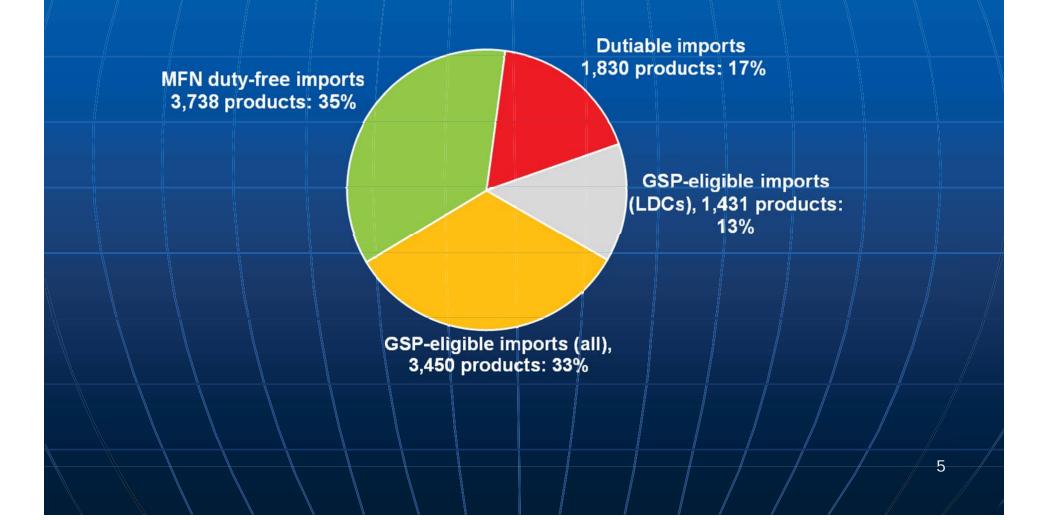
Enhanced access to U.S. market

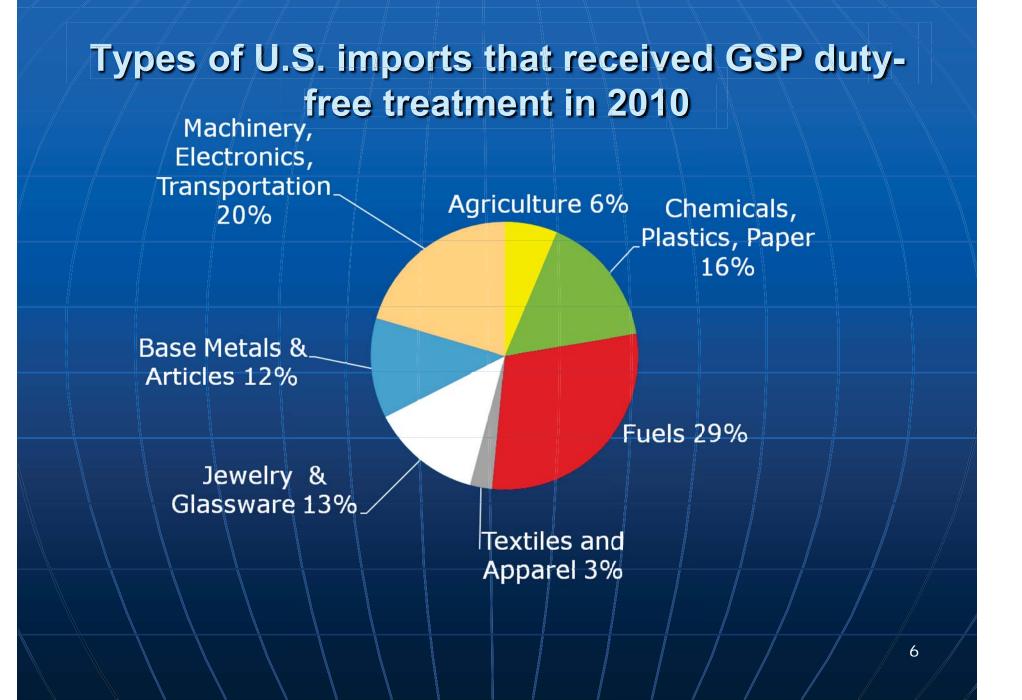
- Expanded choices for U.S. industries & consumers
- Provides duty-free treatment for 3,400 types of products from 129 countries
- \$22.5 billion in total U.S. GSP imports (2010)
- GSP program authorized through July 2013



- <u>Eligible</u>: many manufactured items & inputs, most jewelry, many agricultural products, chemicals, minerals, marble, carpets
- Ineligible: most textiles & apparel, watches, footwear, handbags, luggage, gloves & leather goods

### How many products are eligible for GSP duty-free treatment?







Total U.S. imports from Tunisia \$377 m (2010)

GSP imports: \$139 m (37% of total imports)

 Top GSP imports in 2010: olive oil; gold jewelry; AC motors; national flags and other miscellaneous textile items; pitted dates

## <u>Tunisia's top GSP exports to</u> <u>the U.S. (2010)</u>

Olive oils (1-2% duty): \$79m entered under GSP; 98% utilization

Gold jewelry (5.5-5.8% duty): \$36.5m entered under GSP; 100% utilization

Manufactured goods: e.g. AC motors; motor starters; antennas; radio remote control devices (2.7-4.9% duty) \$11.9m entered under GSP; 90-100% utilization

/8

### <u>How to Qualify for Duty-Free</u> <u>Treatment under GSP</u>

- 1. Must be a GSP-eligible product
- 2. Must be a product or growth of Tunisia
- 3. If using non-Tunisian inputs, local content & processing must be ≥ 35% of the value
- 4. Must import directly into the U.S. from Tunisia w/o entering commerce of another country
- **5.** Benefit must be claimed by importer
- 6. Keep production/accounting records to assist importer to verify GSP claim

<u>Is my product eligible for duty-free</u> <u>treatment under GSP?</u>

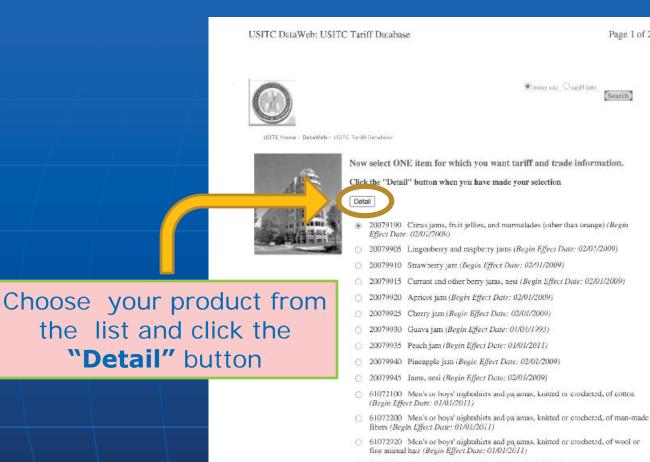
The easiest way to find out is to go to: <u>http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff\_c</u> <u>urrent.asp</u>

List of GSP-eligible products at: <u>http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preferences-gsp/gsp-program-i-0</u>



http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff\_current.asp

11/28/2011



- 61072950 Men's or boys' nightshirts and pa amas, of textile materials (ex cotton, numf or wool), containing 70% or more by wt of silk, knitted or croc (Begin Effect Date: 01/01/2011)
- 61072990 Men's or boys' nightshirts and pajamas, of textile materials (ex cotton, mmf or wool), containing under 70% by wt of silk, knitted or croc (Begin Effect Date: 01/01/2011)
- 61083100 Women's or girls' nightdresses and pajamas, knitted or crocheted, of cotton (Begin Effect Date: 01/01/2011)
- 61083200 Women's or girls' nightdresses and pajamas, knitted or crocheted, of manmade fibers (Begin Effect Date: 01/01/2011)
- 61083910 Women's or girls' nightdresses and pajamas, knitted or crocheted, of woel or fine animal hair (Begin Effect Date: 01/01/2011)

http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff\_current.asp

Page 1 of 2

Search

12

#### USITC DataWeb: USITC Tariff Database

Page 1 of 3





USITC Home - DateWeb - USITC Tariff Database



2011 Tariff and Most Recent Annual U.S. Import Information

		20079190
Brief Description		Curus jams, fruit jellies, and marmalades (other than orange)
Customs value of rece	nt U.S. imports for con	sumption
Click for more detail on imports by source country or imports by tariff program or imports by U.S. Customs district of entry or imports by statistical suffix (HT\$10)		2010 imports (thousand dellars) \$1,098.8
Tar	riff Treatment	
Beginning Effective Date (most recent date any part of this HTS item's tariff treatment changed)		02/01/2009
Ending Effective Date (date any part of this HTS nem is next scheduled for tariff treatment change)		12/31/2020
1st Unit of Quantity (Q1)		Kilograms
2nd Unit of Quantity (Q2)		
2011 Normal Trade Relations (NTR) duty rate (formerly known as the Most Favored Nation (MFN) duty rate)	MFN Text Rate	4.5%
	Duty calculation	(Ad Valorem Rate) times (Value)
	Ad Valorem (percent of value) component	4.5%
	Specific (per unit) component	s0
	Other duty component	\$0
	Binding Status	Bound in World Trade Organization
"Column 2" (non-NTR) duty rate (Applies to imports from a small number of countries that do not enjoy NTR duty status)	COL2 Text Rate	35%
	Duty calculation	(Ad Valorem Rate) times (Value)
	Ad Valorem (percent of value) component	35%
	Specific (per unit) component	s0
	Other duty component	S0
Preferential (duty-free or reduced rat	te) tariff program appli	cability to this HTS item
GSP (Generalized System of Preferences)	Status	Eligible: code "A"
	Countries Excluded from GSP eligibility on this item	

Check if code "A" is listed for your product

http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff\_current.asp



13

# <u>How to Increase Duty-Free</u> <u>Imports into the U.S.</u>

- Use GSP as a marketing tool
- Ensure that GSP treatment is claimed
- Identify GSP-eligible products that Tunisia is exporting to other markets
- Consider products with a GSP advantage, e.g., home décor and craft items

# Identifying & Developing potential U.S. buyers

Depends on size, sector, experience Are you export-ready? Understanding the US market What kind of relationship: agent, distributor, partner, JV Best leads: your own network! Trade shows

#### **GSP Success Story**

Heightened awareness of preference after 2008 GSP outreach

Increased exports of Tunisian olive oil

Need to build on this success with related products

#### <u>GSP-Eligible Imports: Unclaimed or</u> <u>Underutilized in 2010</u>

- Electrical fuses/circuit breakers (2.7%): \$4.8m zero utilization
- Ignition wiring sets (5%) \$3.3m 23% utilization
- Electrical switches (2.7%) \$3.3 m 2.6% utilization
- Insulated cables/conductors (2.6-5.3%) \$1m zero utilization
- Dates with pits (0.6%) \$0.9m 48% utilization
- Articles of plastics (3-6.5%) \$0.7 m zero utilization

#### Industries exporting products not claimed under GSP

Motor vehicle parts

- Vegetables, juices, spices
- Electrical parts, switches; circuit breakers
- Footwear parts; silk-blend dresses, leather belts
- Machinery, tools, pipe, and parts
- Sporting goods

# <u>Tunisia's GSP-Eligible</u> <u>World Exports</u>

- Tunisia exports these products to other trading partners:
  - Agricultural products: fish; fruit & veg. juices, veg. fats and oils; tomato paste
  - Footwear parts
  - Iron/steel products: springs; pipe
  - Flexible tubing; polymer sheeting
  - Auto parts: seat belts; filters; batteries
  - Electrical motors and switches

<u>Export GSP-eligible products duty-</u> <u>free that other countries cannot</u>

- Gold necklaces, neck chains, earrings, pendants, & rings
- Insulated ignition wiring harnesses for cars, planes and ships
- Olives, figs
- Essential oils of peppermint
- Copper cathodes and wire
- Hides and skins

# Export home décor and craft items duty-free under GSP

- Wood statues, bowls, boxes, furniture & tableware (3.2-10.9% duty)
- Ceramic bowls and ornamental articles (6-9.8% duty)
- Woven baskets and bags (6.6% duty)
- Drawn & blown glass (6.4% duty)
- Carpets and rugs (6% duty)
- Brass, beaded, silver & other jewelry (5-11%)
- String & wind musical instruments (2.9-8.7%)
- Wall-hangings & pillow/cushion covers (3.8%)
  Handmade paper & paperboard (MFN free)

#### Handicraft agreement

Tunisia is one of 16 countries with a handicraft agreement with the U.S.

Hand-loomed, folkloric wall hangings and pillow covers of wool and fine animal hair

Must be certified by Tunisian govt

# Petition process to add new products

Product must not be excluded by statute, e.g., apparel

Submit petition during Annual Review; deadlines listed in Federal Register

Provide the information required by the regulations

#### **For Further Information**

GSP guidebook: <a href="http://www.ustr.gov/webfm\_send/2880">http://www.ustr.gov/webfm\_send/2880</a>

Lists of GSP-eligible and ineligible products: <u>http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/trade-</u> <u>development/preference-programs/generalized-system-</u> <u>preferences-gsp/gsp-program-i-0</u>

Department of Homeland Security: Customs & Border Protection (CBP): <u>http://www.cbp.gov</u> and <u>http://rulings.customs.gov/</u>

#### **For Further Information**

U.S. Tariff Schedule: <u>http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts</u> General Note 4

 U.S. Embassy in Tunis: <u>http://tunisia.usembassy.gov</u>
 Phone: 71 107 000

# Shukran! Merci!

