

DECISION ON REVERSE NOTIFICATION
OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES

Adopted by the Council for Trade in Goods on 1 December 1995

The Committee, in pursuance of its mandate (paragraph (d) of document WT/L/47¹), agrees that:

- Members shall have the possibility of making notifications of non-tariff measures maintained by other Members in so far as such measures are neither subject to any existing WTO notification obligations nor to any other reverse notification possibilities under the WTO Agreement;
- such notifications shall contain:
 - an indication of the precise nature of the measure;
 - where applicable, a full description of the products affected, including the corresponding HS headings or sub-headings;
 - where appropriate, a reference to the relevant WTO provisions;
 - a statement on the trade effects of the measure;
- the Member maintaining the measures shall comment on each of these points; such comments shall be included in the Inventory together with the notification;
- in cases where the inclusion or the contents of the notification is challenged, further information will be sought from the notifying Member. In these cases, the Members concerned might hold bilateral consultations with the aim of verifying the existence of the measure and its precise and complete description. The result of these consultations shall be transmitted to the Secretariat for appropriate action (that is, whether or not to include the notification in the Inventory);
- the new Inventory of Non-Tariff Measures shall be open for notification as from the date of this Decision. The existing Inventory of Non-Tariff Measures (Industrial Products) shall cease to exist when the GATT 1947 is terminated;

¹The statement or understanding contained in document PC/IPL/M/9, paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 applies also to this Decision

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- the Inventory of Non-Tariff Measures shall cover all non-tariff measures relating to all products (Chapters 1-97 of the HS nomenclature);
 - the Inventory shall be made available to Members in a loose-leaf format in the 3 WTO languages; amendments to the Inventory (including additions and deletions) shall be circulated to all Members by the Secretariat;
 - when a measure which has been the subject of a reverse notification is notified by the maintaining Member under another WTO provision, the maintaining Member shall so notify the Secretariat. Upon receipt of such notification, the Secretariat shall, having satisfied itself that the subject of the two notifications is the same, delete the reverse notification from the Inventory and inform Members of the action taken;
 - the Committee shall, at two-yearly intervals on the occasion of the review of the notifications of quantitative restrictions, review the reverse notifications of non-tariff measures received, on the basis of Secretariat analyses similar to the analyses prepared for the GATT Technical Group on Quantitative Restrictions and Other Non-Tariff Measures.