WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/Notif.99/661 22 December 1999

(99-5541)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

- 1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</u>
 If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
- 2. Agency responsible: Korea Food and Drug Administration
 Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:
- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Food products
- **5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Official Notification of the Labelling standards for Food etc (written in Korean, 76 pages)
- **6. Description of content:** Korea Food and Drug Administration would revise the Labelling Standard for Food et al as follows:
 - The concept of labelling in a prominent position would be introduced into the Labelling Standard for Food *et al.* So Name of Food and Net Contents should appear in a prominent position and in the same field of vision.
 - To distinguish main ingredient and component, description of them should be defined clearly.
 - Type of food would be deleted among labelling requirements, but in order to prevent consumers from being mislead and fraudulence, the following food products should remain: Tea, extracted and processed foods, health supplementary foods, foods for special dietary uses, mixed soft drinks and other processed foods that are not prescribed by standards and criteria.
 - It would be required to delete the requirement for the type size. Manufacturers could choose the type size, considering colours and properties of packaging materials and select type size, but the minimum type size for shelf-life, etc., would be required for protection of consumers.
 - It would be required to put "Free" level of energy, saturated fat and cholesterol into the table for Nutrient Content Claims, which was consistent with that of CODEX.
 - It would be established range of permitted error for the type of nutrients.
 - It would establish definitions for "Natural" and "100%".
 - It would be required to indicate the list of five and more food additives in

descending order of weight.

- For imported products, the sticker in Korean should not cover nutrient labelling original mark.
- 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:

 To provide valid product information to consumers.
- **8. Relevant documents:** KFDA Notification 1999.48 (1999.11.20)
- 9. Proposed date of adoption:
 Proposed date of entry into force:

 To be determined
- 10. Final date for comments: 20 January 2000
- 11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, e-mail and telefax number of the other body:

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