WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

G/RO/N/17

10 April 1997

(97-1515)

Committee on Rules of Origin

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 5 AND PARAGRAPH 4 OF ANNEX II OF THE AGREEMENT ON RULES OF ORIGIN

A. NON-PREFERENTIAL RULES OF ORIGIN

- 1. Article 5.1 of the Agreement on Rules of Origin envisages that each Member shall provide to the Secretariat, within 90 days after the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement for it, its rules of origin, judicial decisions and administrative rulings of general application relating to rules of origin in effect on that date. If by inadvertence a rule of origin has not been provided, the Member concerned shall provide it immediately after this fact becomes known. Lists of information received and available within the Secretariat shall be circulated to the Members by the Secretariat.
- 2. Article 5.2 of the Agreement on Rules of Origin provides that during the period referred to in Article 2, Members introducing modifications, other than *de minimis* modifications, to their rules of origin or introducing new rules of origin, which, for the purpose of this Article, shall include any rule of origin referred to in paragraph 1 and not provided to the Secretariat, shall publish a notice to that effect at least 60 days before the entry into force of the modified or new rule in such a manner as to enable interested parties to become acquainted with the intention to modify a rule of origin or to introduce a new rule of origin, unless exceptional circumstances arise or threaten to arise for a Member. In these exceptional cases, the Member shall publish the modified or new rule as soon as possible.
- 3. Previous notifications received are listed in the G/RO/N/- series. Further notifications have been received as follows:1

BULGARIA

(Notification in English)

- Articles 2-7 of the Regulation of Council of Ministers No. 298/1996, published in State Gazette No. 108 of 20 December 1996.

FIJI

(Notification in English)

Fiji does not have non-preferential rules of origin.

The notifications are available for consultation in the Secretariat (Market Access Division).

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

(Notification in English)

The United Arab Emirates does not have any non-preferential ruling of general application relating to rules of origin.

B. PREFERENTIAL RULES OF ORIGIN

- 1. Paragraph 4 of Annex II of the Agreement on Rules of Origin envisages that Members shall provide to the Secretariat promptly their preferential rules of origin, including a listing of the preferential arrangements to which they apply, judicial decisions, and administrative rulings of general application relating to their preferential rules of origin in effect on the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement for the Member concerned. Members shall provide any modifications to their preferential rules of origin or new preferential rules of origin as soon as possible to the Secretariat. Lists of information received and available within the Secretariat shall be circulated to Members by the Secretariat.
- 2. Previous notifications received are listed in the G/RO/N/- series. Further notifications have been received as follows:²

BULGARIA

(Notification in English)

1. GSP rules of origin

- Articles 8-23 of the Regulation of Council of Ministers No. 298/1996, published in State Gazette No. 108 of 20 December 1996.
- 2. Preferential rules of origin relating to Free Trade Agreements concluded by Bulgaria
- Protocol 4 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation to the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Bulgaria, of the other part;
- Protocol B concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation to the Agreement between the EFTA States and the Republic of Bulgaria;
- Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Czech Republic;
- Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Slovak Republic;

²The notifications are available for consultation in the Secretariat (Market Access Division).

- Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and Slovenia.

<u>FIJI</u>

(Notification in English)

- Bilateral Trade Agreement between Papua New Guinea and Fiji, 1996;
- Bilateral Trade Agreement between the Kingdom of Tonga and Fiji, 1995;
- South Pacific Regional Trade and Cooperation Agreement (SPARTECA), 1980.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

(Notification in English)

- The Unified Economic Agreement between the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, 1982.