## WORLD TRADE

## **ORGANIZATION**

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**Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade** 

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## IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Communication from the Delegation of Uruguay

Addendum

The following statement under Article 15.2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade has been received from the Delegation of Uruguay.

1. The Government of Uruguay approved the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade by Law No. 16.671 of 13 December 1994 approving of all of the agreements resulting from the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

2. With the view to creating an appropriate legal framework to ensure compliance with the obligations arising from the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, Decree No. 164/998 was promulgated on 30 June 1998.

3. This Decree establishes an Interministerial Commission made up of representatives of the Office of the President of the Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Relations, the Ministry of the Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries and the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Regulation and Environment. This Commission will evaluate, prior to their entry into force, all technical regulations issued by the Central Administration in order to ensure that they are consistent with the provisions of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

4. The Directorate-General for International Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Relations will act as notification centre in conformity with Article 10.10 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

5. The Trade Information Service of the Directorate-General for Trade (Ministry of the Economy and Finance) has been designated as the enquiry point for Uruguay under Article 10.1 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

6. The address of this enquiry point, which has already been communicated to the WTO Secretariat, is:

Servicio de Información Comercial Colonia 1206 - PB C.P. 11.100 Montevideo – Uruguay Tel.: (5982) 900 26 22 Fax: (5982) 902 82 06 E-mail: <u>coexsic@tips.org.uy</u> 7. The Interministerial Commission created by Decree 164/998 has conducted a survey of the bodies establishing technical regulations which could turn into technical barriers to trade, and has provided information to the competent national authorities on the provisions of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. Thus, the necessary steps have been taken towards establishing an internal information system designed to ensure communication to the said Interministerial Commission of planned new technical regulations so that the WTO can be notified where appropriate, as stipulated in the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.