### WORLD TRADE

## **ORGANIZATION**

**G/TBT/2/Add.97** 30 October 2007

(07-4696)

**Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade** 

Original: English

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

### Communication from Botswana

#### Addendum

The following statement under Article 15.2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade has been received from <u>Botswana</u>.

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- 1. In accordance with Article 15.2 of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and considering the decision of the TBT Committee of 14 July 1995, concerning Statements on Implementation and Administration of the Agreement as contained in document G/TBT/1/Rev.8 of 23 May 2002, the Government of the Republic of Botswana accepted the Agreement Establishing the WTO, TBT Agreement and the associated Legal Instrument included in Annexes 1, 2 and 3.
- 2. The Ministry of Trade and Industry is responsible for implementation of the WTO agreements, and has the overall responsibility of ensuring that the obligations under the agreements are fulfilled. According to the requirements of the Agreement, the Government of the Republic of Botswana, through the Ministry of Trade and Industry, has designated Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) as the Notification Authority and national Enquiry Point for WTO-TBT Notifications.
- 3. The principal responsibilities of the National Enquiry Point and Notification Authority for Botswana include: responding to technical enquiries from other WTO Members regarding Botswana domestic regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures in force; and fulfilment of the notifications obligations under the TBT Agreement.
- 4. The Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) is a statutory body of the Government, established by the Standards Act of 1995, and is mandated to provide for the preparation and promotion of standards in relation to goods, services, processes and practices. The implementation and administration of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade is therefore supported by the Standards Act 1995, and is the responsibility of the BOBS.
- 5. Notices concerning standards and technical regulations developed, issued or adopted by the BOBS are published in the Botswana Gazzette.
- 6. The aims and objectives of BOBS include preparation of standards relating to products, measurements, materials, processes, etc. and their promotion at national, regional and international levels; certification of products; assistance in the production of quality goods; improvement of measurement accuracies and dissemination of information relating to standards.

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- 7 Code of Good Practice: BOBS has accepted the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards (Annex 3 to the Agreement).
- 8. All enquiries concerning the Botswana implementation of the Agreement should be addressed to:

Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) Private Bag BO 48 Main Airport Road Plot No. 55745 Block 8, Gaborone BOTSWANA

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