WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

S/C/N/43

24 March 1997

(97-1180)

Council for Trade in Services

Original: English

NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII.4 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES

The following notification has been received from the European Commission.

1. Member notifying:

European Communities and their Member States

2. Notification under Article:

GATS Article VII, paragraph 4 (Recognition)

3. Date of entry into force:

1 January 1993

Duration:

Denunciation by each Contracting Party is possible at any time; the Agreement shall cease to be in force 12 months after the date of such notification.

4. Agency responsible for enforcement of the measure:

Competent authorities of Member States.

5. Complete description of the measure:

Measure

Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation on direct insurance other than life insurance signed on 10 October 1989.

Description

The object of the Agreement is to lay down, on a reciprocal basis, the conditions which are necessary and sufficient to enable agencies and branches of undertakings whose head office wish to become established in the territory of the other Contracting Party, or are established there, to take up or pursue the self-employed activity of direct insurance other than life assurance.

The most important measure allowing for the granting of authorisation relate to the reciprocal recognition of each other's evidence relating to the solvency of insurance companies having their head office in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties and as a result the authorisation is not made subject to the lodging of a deposit or the provision of a security.

6. Members specifically affected, if any:

None

7. Text available from:

WTO Secretariat

Official Journal of the European Communities No. L 205 of 27 July 1991.