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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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**KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, STATE OF KUWAIT, OMAN,
QATAR, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, YEMEN – THE COOPERATION COUNCIL
FOR THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF DRAFT TECHNICAL REGULATION
FOR "REQUIREMENTS OF HANDLING ENERGY DRINKS"**

STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE
21 AND 22 MARCH 2018

The following communication, dated 16 April 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the European Union.

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1. In previous meetings of the TBT Committee the European Union has shared its concerns with regard to the impact on trade of the measures which Saudi Arabia and other GCC countries are applying and/or developing in the area of energy drinks. The EU has requested that clear, proportionate, science-based non-discriminatory requirements are established by the GCC countries, and that these are uniformly applied by all authorities concerned.
 2. The EU thanks Saudi Arabia for its willingness to accept EU contributions on the issue, and in particular to consider EU comments within the GCC regulatory process in this area.
 3. The EU would like to kindly ask Saudi Arabia to provide an update on the state of play of the regulatory development of the measure, in particular on the possible convergence between current Saudi Arabia measures and draft GCC-wide measures.
 4. GCC member countries have recently notified a draft GSO technical regulation "Mandatory warning and advisory statement and declarations" (ARE 400), which also includes mandatory warnings for energy drinks, the EU has sent written comments.
 5. The EU would like to kindly ask Saudi Arabia to clarify the relation between current Saudi Arabia measures and this recently notified draft measure.
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