AGRICULTURE DOCUMENTATION
INVENTORY OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES

Marketing Standards and Packaging and Labelling Regulations
for Products in CCCN Chapters 1-24

Notified in Respect of:

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

This document is one in a series which updates the information
originally circulated in the MTN/3E/DOC/12 and Addenda series. For
non-tariff measures (NTM) other than those covered by this document please
refer to document AG/DOC/1 which provides an overview of the way in which
NTM information is organized within the AG/DOC/- series.
Product: Country or group Countries indicating maintaining measures: an interest:
Chocolate South Africa Switzerland 
(ex 18.06)

(a) Description:
Marketing standard

(b) Comments by other countries:
Switzerland

The regulation which requires that packs shall weigh a round figure e.g. 200 or 300 gr., is a serious obstacle to imports such as pralines and small boxes of chocolate.

(c) Comments by countries maintaining the measures:

Regulations in force in South Africa stipulate that pre-packed quantities of sugar or chocolate confectionary under a mass of 50 gr. may be of any mass and need not bear a statement of quantity. Quantities from 50 gr. to 75 gr. may be of any mass, but must bear a statement of quantity, and thereafter the permissible quantities are 100 gr., 125 gr., 150 gr., 200 gr., 250 gr., 500 gr., 750 gr., 1 kg., 1.5 kg. and 2 kg. and integral multiples of 1 kg. above 2 kg., with declaration of quantity on packs.

As in the case of many other commodities which are subject to packaging in prescribed quantities, it is necessary to retain those provisions so as to ensure rationalized and orderly packaging and some measure of uniformity in the industries concerned.

The South African authorities are of the opinion that these provisions are not having a detrimental effect on the trade or on the consumption of these commodities. It is, in fact, understood that Switzerland has similar regulations in force, namely that, in terms of Article 319, paragraph 5 of the Swiss Food Legislation, the packaging of these commodities should be effected in the following quantities:

50 gr., 100 gr., 125 gr., 150 gr., 200 gr., 250 gr., 300 gr., or larger quantities.

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